

# Herald Tribune

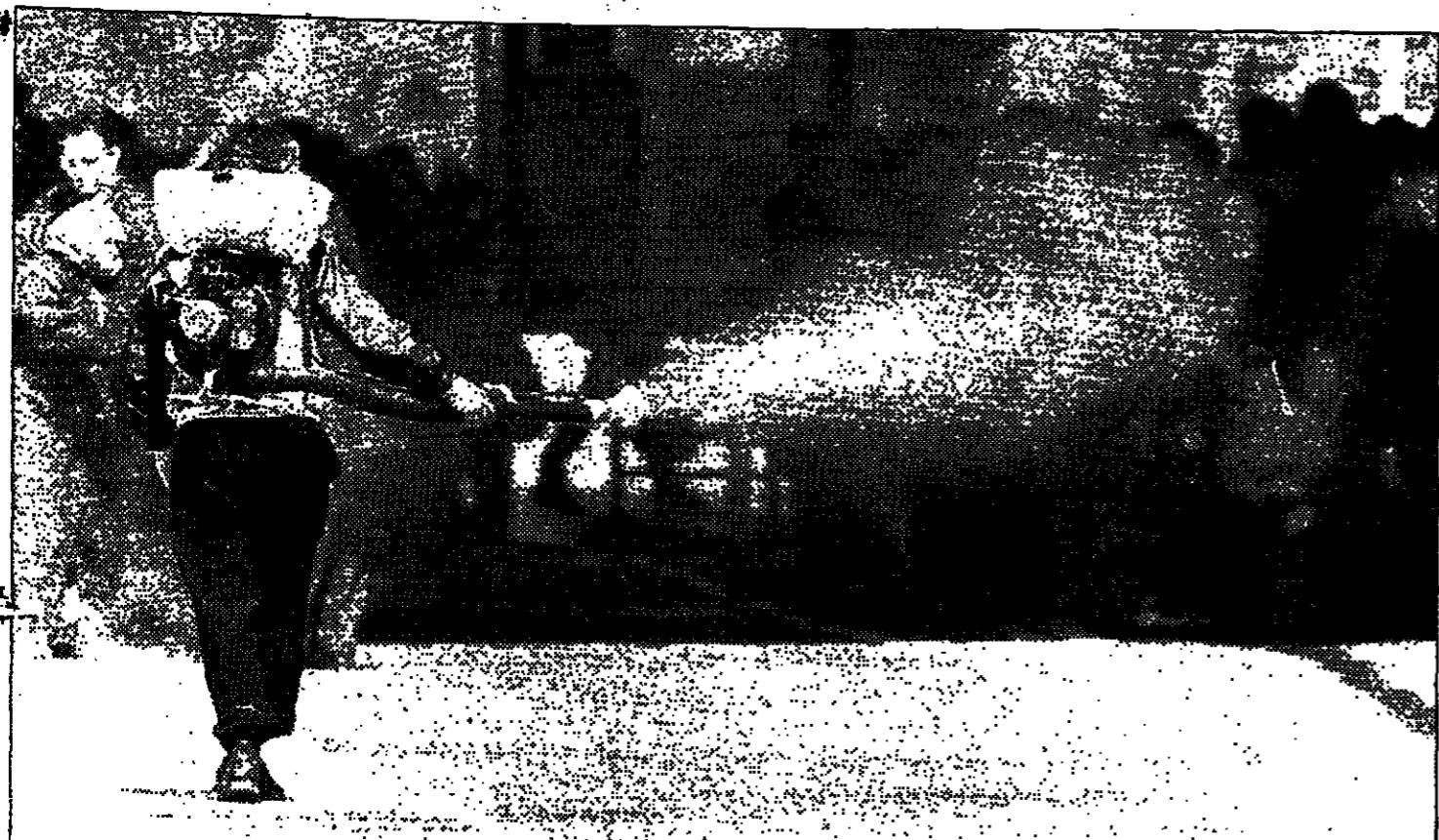
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The World's Daily Newspaper

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Paris, Wednesday, April 28, 1999

No. 36,127



A worker spraying disinfectants Tuesday on refugees from Kosovo at the border crossing near the village of Blace, Macedonia.

## Europe and Japan Hear a Call for Help

Washington Warns It Can't Drive World's Economic Growth Indefinitely

By David E. Sanger  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The United States has told Germany and Japan that the world economy cannot run for long on only one engine: an American economy that keeps expanding as Europe slows and Tokyo prays that an eight-year recession is ending.

No sooner had the Group of Seven leading industrial nations issued their traditional communiqué Monday afternoon than the U.S. Treasury secretary, Robert Rubin, and his Japanese counterpart, Finance Minister Ki-

chi Miyazawa, began to interpret the deliberately vague wording about Japan's economic strategy in strikingly different terms. The communiqué, agreed upon by all the nations well before the start of their meeting Monday, stated that Japan should implement stimulus measures until growth was restored, using all available tools to support strong growth led by domestic demand.

Mr. Miyazawa, a former prime minister and one of Tokyo's canniest politicians, said at a news conference here that the wording "has nothing to do with anything new."

It should not be read to suggest, he said, that

See GROWTH, Page 14

Japan was ready to take further steps to stimulate its economy. The International Monetary Fund has predicted that Japan's gross national product will shrink 1.4 percent this year, while the Japanese government officially insists that there will be modest growth.

But Mr. Rubin appeared to have a different view from that of Mr. Miyazawa. Speaking at the Treasury, he insisted that the communiqué committed Japan to continue to take important measures until "solid, domestic-demand-led

growth led by domestic demand."

He should not be read to suggest, he said, that

See GROWTH, Page 14

## Japan Acts to Widen Role With U.S. Military

By Nicholas D. Kristof  
New York Times Service

TOKYO — The lower house of Parliament on Tuesday passed crucial legislation to improve military cooperation with the United States, smoothing the way for Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's departure Thursday for a summit meeting with President Bill Clinton.

The United States has been pressing for the legislation, which would make it easier for Japan's military forces to cooperate with the United States in handling any security crisis in East Asia. Washington has been concerned that if a crisis were to erupt — a war with North Korea is the one most mentioned — then Japan

would wring its hands and manufacture body bags but do little else.

The new bills would allow Japan to do more to back up U.S. military action. Japan would be able to send ships to evacuate civilians abroad, to supply fuel and spare parts, to make airports and hospitals available to American forces and to conduct rear-area search-and-rescue operations for American troops.

Even with new military guidelines that the bills carry out, however, Japanese forces would not fight alongside American troops, and there are doubts about how quickly and how fully Japan would respond in a crisis.

The guidelines are deliberately ambiguous about whether they apply to the Taiwan Strait,

and some Japanese officials admit that if there were a war over Taiwan they do not know whether Japan would risk the wrath of China by allowing the United States to use American bases in Japan to intervene on behalf of Taiwan.

The Japanese vote drew criticism from China, which is concerned about how the guidelines might affect ties with Taiwan, regarded by Beijing as a renegade province. The Associated Press reported: "Japan has ignored the strong concerns of its neighbor countries, including China," said a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Sun Yuxi.

See JAPAN, Page 4

By Steven Erlanger  
New York Times Service

BELGRADE — A second senior Yugoslav official spoke optimistically Tuesday about the possibility of a negotiated settlement to the war over Kosovo, saying: "I believe that this will be the week in which the basic outline of an agreement on Kosovo can be firm up."

The official, Goran Matic, is a government minister from the Yugoslav United Left party of Mirjana Markovic, the influential wife of President Slobodan Milosevic.

He spoke as President Bill Clinton authorized the call-up of up to 33,000 National Guard and Reserve members to active duty to enable NATO to quicken the pace of its attacks.

Mr. Matic is closer to the ruling circles around Mr. Milosevic than the more liberal deputy prime minister, Vuk

Montenegrins reject call-up. Page 7. • Yugoslavia will have ways to get oil, but at a price. Page 4.

Draskovic, who continued to press Tuesday for a compromise on a post-settlement United Nations-led peacekeeping force that would include representatives of NATO countries.

While Mr. Draskovic maintained that Mr. Milosevic would back his initiative, he conceded that he had not specifically discussed such a force with the president.

Mr. Matic said diplomacy, with Moscow's help, was advancing. A resolution could be reached as quickly as "both sides can bring elements of rationality to the problem," he said. "We'll give NATO their victory," he said. "They just have to decide what that really means."

Mr. Matic said that Yugoslavia, after more than a month of air strikes, would like to see the allied campaign stop. But not at any price, he said. "We have a national interest in this," he said. "But it's in America's interest as well, and at one point our interests will intersect."

While much remains to be done to bring the two sides together, he said, Yugoslavia would insist only on two things: "We won't give up Kosovo or allow armed troops into Kosovo. Everything else we'll give NATO for their victory."

But even on foreign troops, Mr. Matic was careful.

"That is our official position," he said, but he conceded that any peace settlement would have to involve compromise.

Asked about some form of international protectorate for Kosovo, as the allies are proposing — an apparent retreat from its earlier acceptance of Kosovo as an integral part of Yugoslavia — Mr. Matic said flatly: "No one can sign an agreement that allows the secession of the territory."

On Sunday, Mr. Draskovic called on the government to speak realistically to the nation about the war and its costs and not to pretend that Yugoslavia could defeat NATO or be saved by Russian military aid.

He also pressed for a UN force to monitor any Kosovo agreement, but his proposal fell short of allied demands for an armed "international security force," with NATO troops in the lead for ethnic Albanian refugees to return home.

Belgrade also wants to keep larger numbers of its security forces in Kosovo than NATO is willing to allow, but most diplomats consider that subject to negotiation, too.

Mr. Draskovic also asserted that Yugoslavia was willing to allow international human-rights investigators access to Kosovo as part of a settlement, but Mr. Milosevic previously has refused such access outright.

■ 2,100 U.S. Troops in First Stage of Mobilization

President Clinton on Tuesday authorized the Pentagon to order as many as 33,000 reservists to active duty for the

See KOSOVO, Page 4

## AGENDA

### Arafat Signals Delay on Statehood Call

GAZA (Reuters) — Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, gave a clear signal Tuesday that he would not declare an independent Palestinian state May 4 when peace deals with Israel expire.

"We don't have to consecrate our state because we are already practicing

it on the ground," the official Palestinian news agency WAFA quoted Mr. Arafat as telling the Palestinian Central Council in Gaza.

Members of the council were meeting to decide the statehood question.

Earlier article, Page 4.

### China Protesters: Hard to Define

It was amazing how easily more than 10,000 followers of a religious sect materialized at the door of China's leadership and then vanished.

To the authorities, it can only be unsettling that so many people could walk up to the secretive compound where China's leaders live and work, and sit silently there for an entire day.

As followers there for an entire day, they are for a sect of qigong, a traditional teaching that human energy can be directed to improve one's own health, to heal others and, when mastered, to achieve powers like flying. The protesters represent an amorphous and hard-to-control body that is confident and far-reaching. Page 6.



Mr. Arafat presiding at a school ceremony in Gaza on Tuesday.

By Estelle Shulman/The Associated Press

See DIPLOMACY, Page 4

## Many U.S. Teenagers Fear Repeat of School Violence

By Hanna Rosin  
and Claudia Deane  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Many American teenagers believe a shooting rampage like the one last week in Littleton, Colorado, could happen at their school and say they know students who might be troubled enough to carry one out, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll of teenagers and parents.

The particular circumstances that in retrospect seem to have signaled trouble at Columbine High School — from disturbing behavior by some students to easy access to deadly weapons — are familiar to many of the teenagers and adults who were polled.

About a third of the teenagers have heard a student threaten to kill someone, and few of them report the threats to a teacher or other adult. Four out of 10 say they know students troubled enough to be potential killers.

A fifth of the teenagers personally know someone who has brought a gun to school. About half are growing up in homes with guns, and more than half say it would be easy for them to lay their hands on one. Two in three say it would

be easy for them to get information on how to make a bomb.

While 40 percent of teenagers think their school has the potential for an incident similar to the one that resulted in 15 deaths at Columbine High School, fear is by no means pervasive, either among students or parents. Of the 500

Clinton calls for sweeping restrictions on the sale of guns. Page 3.

public and private high school students and 522 parents who were interviewed between April 22 and 25, more than 8 out of 10 said they felt relatively safe from school violence. The margin of error for the survey results is plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

The simultaneous sense of security and fear is partly explained by the random and explosive nature of the series of recent school shootings.

Across the United States, the number

See TEENS, Page 3

is good to talk it out, but dangerous."

Dangerous is right. Copies of this and other e-mail messages have been filed at Fairfax County Circuit Court in Virginia, where the lawyer and his now former wife will be fighting for custody of their children. The ex-wife says she found the e-mail messages on computer disks stuffed into a drawer; the lawyer says the messages are forgeries.

Records of electronic communication, a growing factor in corporate cases such as the high-profile government antitrust suit against Microsoft Corp., have begun showing up in divorce and custody proceedings across the United States. Electronic infidelity also has become an issue.

"You must not print this, and delete all files!!

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"You must not print this, and delete all files!!

## You've Got Mail! As Divorce Sequels Show, You've Got Trouble!

By Maria Glod  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The words flowed without inhibition. In electronic mail he allegedly wrote to friends, even to strangers, the 37-year-old lawyer described his sexual trysts, gushed about his partners and agonized over cheating on his wife.

"Right now I am in New Orleans with a man," one message read. "My wife thinks I am here for work, but I'm not.

"I met him on-line. He is married, two kids," the e-mail said. "Italian muscles like crazy, beautiful face and eyes."

"You must not print this, and delete all files!!

One Virginia man, according to court documents, learned that his wife was having "cybersex." Furthermore, she "engaged in chats wherein she has disparaged her husband and her children."

Some legal scholars say using the messages as a weapon raises questions of privacy and fairness.

"I think we need to look at e-mail as something that has to be protected," said Paul Levinson, a communications professor at Fordham University. "Historically, the law has always been limping behind the technology."

For now, clients are marching into their lawyers' offices with printouts from their home computers. The search for e-mail, said one lawyer, Mama Tucker, is the modern equivalent of "looking

through the trash can for discarded notes."

And if the client does not broach the subject, the lawyer often does.

"I ask them, 'Is your spouse computer-literate?'" Mark Sandground, a lawyer, said. "You're going to say things to your e-mail that you wouldn't say to your priest in confession."

Glenn Lewis, who heads the domestic-relations section of the Virginia Bar Association, said that even the most sophisticated husbands and wives have let down their guard at the keyboard.

"There are people who wouldn't think about leaving an envelope open on their desk," he said.

See MAIL, Page 3

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## NDA

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## U.S. Beef

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Pages 18-19.

www.iht.com

Spirited Away / Bogota's Vanishing Children

## Disappearing From a 'Street of the Damned'

By Anthony Faiola  
*Washington Post Service*

**B**OGOTA — Yulie Farfan Chacon's presents are neatly tucked next to her frayed teddy bears on the bed she last slept in on Feb. 20, 1996. Her single mother, Florinda Farfan, has bought one gift for each birthday and Christmas her daughter has missed since she was abducted one block from her home at the age of 11. Her mother wrapped each with bows and multicolored paper, for the moment when "my baby comes home."

Across the street in this poor corner of northwest Bogota, Norberto Garcia's hands shake as he pulls from his wallet a dog-eared photo of his daughter, Andrea Garcia Lopez, who was 14 when she was kidnapped on Nov. 27, 1995. Like Yulie Chacon, she is thought to have been abducted by an organized crime ring and sold into a life of prostitution abroad.

Like a nightmarish fairy tale in which young girls are spirited away by monsters, five were abducted from this three-block stretch of 125th Street in Bogota from November 1995 to July 1997. Not one has been found.

"You know, the neighbors are calling this place the 'Street of the Damned,'" said Mr. Garcia. "But I think it's more than just this street. What has happened to us in Colombia when five girls are kidnapped on the same street and nobody can do anything about it?"

The kidnappings on 125th Street underscore the horrific problem of abductions of minors in Colombia, where violence against children and teenagers has reached startling proportions in the 1990s. Overall, five people are kidnapped in Colombia each day, the highest rate in the world.

**C**hildren of wealthy families long have been targets of Colombia's Marxist guerrillas and criminals looking to fatten their wallets by holding hostages for ransom. But now, experts say, criminals have branched out into "lower-end" abductions, targeting children and teenagers from families of lesser means.

Sometimes, the children are nabbed by small-time thieves in an attempt to extort a few hundred dollars from poor families too frightened to go to the police — and unable to hire the private investigators often employed by rich families.

In 1998, Colombia experienced a record high of 1,844 kidnappings for ransom, with 120 of the victims under 18, according to Control Risks



Florinda Farfan with a photograph of her abducted daughter. She is demanding legislative action.

Group, a London-based firm that investigates kidnapping cases. That number is likely to be low, however, since most families do not report kidnappings, especially of children.

Besides those who kidnap for profit, Marxist guerrillas are targeting older teens from poor families for abduction and forced recruitment into their movements, experts say.

While authorities say they don't know what happened to the girls of 125th Street, anti-kidnapping activists say several of the cases are similar to others in which poor girls have been abducted and sent to brothels in Colombia and abroad. Because there is no request for ransom — in fact, the lives of relatives are often threatened for their attempts to find missing children — the cases do not go to the experienced anti-kidnapping department of the national police. Instead, these abductions are channeled into regular criminal divisions, where only 8 percent of reported crimes are even investigated, experts said.

"There is every indication to believe they were kidnapped for prostitution," said Viviana Esguerra Villamizar, communications director for País Libre, an anti-kidnapping group. "They were all pretty, young girls, and everything about the crimes indicate to us that they were sold into prostitution, probably somewhere in Europe."

**S**uch crimes are among the most difficult to solve, authorities say. "The nature of the crimes makes it less likely to get the victims back," said General Rafael Pardo Cortes, head of the police's anti-kidnapping division. "For one, there is rarely any communication established with the abductors. They could have taken the minors anywhere."

There is also some suspicion that one or more of the 125th Street girls may be among the growing number of young sex-crime victims.

In January, a mass grave of 20 children who had been abused and then murdered was found in Bogota. But in a country where only 1 percent of homicides result in prosecution in a country, and has a murder rate nine times that of the United States, there is little hope for justice.

The families on 125th Street have channeled their pain into an extraordinary will to fight for the rights of poor crime victims.

They have brought up the issue of child abductions in particular to the forefront of Colombian consciousness, staging marches in the center of Bogota every few months and mounting a letter-writing campaign to everyone from local congressmen to United Nations officials.

As a result, the local police this past January put two full-time investigators on the cases.

That is a ray of hope for mothers like Mrs. Farfan, 42, a cafeteria worker whose life has descended into unrelenting grief since the loss of her child. More than a year went by without a clue.

Then, one day in mid-1997, her sister got a desperate phone call from Yulie while Mrs. Farfan was at work. "She was crying, and she couldn't get out any information about where she was because someone there in the room with her hung up the phone," Mrs. Farfan said.

What does she think happened to her daughter, who would have turned 15 this week? "Oh God!" she sobbed. "They tell me she's been sold as a prostitute. No, no! No My baby!"

Later, she dismissed talk that Yulie may never return. "The police can stop looking, but it won't affect me. I will never give up hope. Never. My Yulie is coming home!"

## Tribal Chiefs Wooed as South African Vote Nears

By Suzanne Daley  
*New York Times Service*

**T**ZANEEN, South Africa — Tony Leon, the head of South Africa's liberal Democratic Party, a man with the slight lockjaw accent of those educated at this country's best English-style boarding schools, came here recently to pay homage to Chief Samuel Mpumulana Mhlalwa II and to make his pitch to the Tonga people nearby.

His campaign bus rattled up the dirt road and stopped before the rundown meeting house where a group of traditional dancers with drums and sheep-skin anklets were ready to greet him here, 360 kilometers (225 miles) northeast of Johannesburg.

Mr. Leon's speech was thick with deference to Chief Mhlalwa and skirted the issue of how one reconciles democracy with chieftainships, which are, after all, usually passed from father to son.

South Africa, said Mr. Leon after he had removed his suit jacket and striped tie in the sweltering heat, needed to "carve a niche" for traditional leaders where they could continue to be "the voice of the people."

Mr. Leon is not the only South African politician rushing down unpaved roads to see the chiefs these days.

With little time left before the second post-apartheid elections on June 2, the newspapers are suddenly awash with pictures of politicians wearing beads and emphasizing the importance of protecting "the old ways."

For many chiefs, the sudden attention is more than welcome. Since the 1994 elections, traditional leaders — many installed and sustained by apartheid authorities, because they did what they were told — have hovered at the margins of the new order, grumbling at their lack of official status, power and pay.

The ruling African National Congress continues to study what exactly its policy will be regarding the 700 traditional leaders. But it did decide last month, in time for the election, that they were entitled to hefty raises, pensions and medical benefits. They will all be paid about \$1,000 a month, a very good salary by South African standards and about twice what they were getting.

While their role in a democracy may be hard to figure out, there can be little doubt that the chiefs continue to hold enormous sway, doling out land, settling disputes and punishing those who break traditional law. They are no doubt capable of delivering hundreds of thousands of votes.

"Over the last four years, the government has basically tried to avoid the problem of traditional leaders," said Sean Jacobs, a political analyst with the

Their role is unclear, but traditional leaders hold enormous sway.

on the chiefs is that South Africa's newest party, the fast-growing, multiracial United Democratic Movement, has been wooing them for months. The party is led by Bantu Holomisa, who was thrown out of the African National Congress for insubordination, and Roelf Meyer, who was pushed out of the largely white-supported former National Party because of his reformist

views. Mr. Holomisa comes from the Eastern Cape Province, much of which is still under the control of Xhosa chiefs, and he is said to use his skills well there. When polls began to show that Mr. Holomisa was making huge inroads in this area, ANC officials began to fight back.

A poll suggests that the Congress, which is expected to win the election, is pushing for a two-thirds majority, may have reclaimed some of its support.

In the last few months, both President Nelson Mandela and his deputy, Thabo Mbeki, who is virtually certain to become the next president, have visited

tribal leaders and attended showy ceremonies.

This month, Mr. Mandela once again married Graca Machel, the former first lady of Mozambique, whom he married at his Johannesburg home last year.

This time he went through a traditional ceremony in his own Eastern Cape village, Qunu.

Mrs. Machel, who is a lawyer and is active in children's rights, wore a traditional Xhosa outfit with face paint and underwent rituals to make her a full member of Mr. Mandela's Tembu clan.

The following weekend, Mr. Mandela and several other top ANC officials were present as Patekile Holomisa, a half brother of Bantu Holomisa and a member of the Congress, was installed as chief of the Gebe.

Mr. Mandela told the crowds that South Africa needed to marry its traditional authority and its newfound democracy if the country was to be successful.

"The government has demonstrated its faith in traditional leaders," Mr. Mandela said, "and acknowledged the role they could play in building a nation."

There is little sympathy in the order for

## TRAVEL UPDATE

## Bulkhead Crack Spurs Checks of Boeing 737s

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Federal Aviation Administration is ordering airlines to perform a new round of inspections on the most widely used passenger jet in the world — the Boeing 737 — after cracks were found in the one of the plane's rear pressurization barrier.

The order calls for the inspection and correction of possible fatigue cracks in the air pressure bulkhead, situated near the tail. The barrier, like one in the cockpit, allows the planes to pressurize to a safe breathing atmosphere. Left untreated, cracks could widen and trigger rapid depressurization of a plane.

The order stems from reports of fatigue cracks on the air pressure bulkhead of some Boeing 737-200 models, older planes with cigar-shaped engines under the wings. Newer models have oval or round engine pods.

## French Train Strike

**PARIS (Reuters)** — A strike by engineers was expected to disrupt slightly Paris commuter trains and regional rail traffic in northern and eastern France on Wednesday, the state rail company SNCF said Tuesday.

It said all high-speed services would run normally.

The stoppage, scheduled to last for a week, was called by a trade union to protest an agreement to cut the working week in line with government regulations. The union complained the accord would freeze wages, increase the number of part-time jobs and modify working and pension conditions.

In Nice, Air France ground staff voted to stay on strike for a 13th consecutive day Wednesday to protest plans to hand over part of baggage handling to subcontractors. Unions were due to talk with management and call another vote Wednesday on whether to stay on strike.

Tourists continued to return to Singapore in March, after the tourism industry showed the first signs of recovery from the regional economic crisis in February. Low air fares and cheap tourist packages helped the city-state receive 11.7 percent more visitors in March, compared with a year earlier, the Singapore Tourism Board said. (AP)

The chateau of Versailles and its museum will be closed to the public on May 4 because of an official ceremony, officials announced Tuesday. The chateau will reopen as usual the following day, the officials said. (AP)

## Europe

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



Map and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©1999 • [www.accuweather.com](http://www.accuweather.com)

North America

Today: High 70° Low 50° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Friday: High 72° Low 52° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Saturday: High 74° Low 54° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Sunday: High 76° Low 56° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Monday: High 78° Low 58° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Tuesday: High 80° Low 60° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Wednesday: High 82° Low 62° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Thursday: High 84° Low 64° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Friday: High 86° Low 66° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Saturday: High 88° Low 68° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

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Monday: High 92° Low 72° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

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Wednesday: High 96° Low 76° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Thursday: High 98° Low 78° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Friday: High 100° Low 80° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Saturday: High 102° Low 82° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Sunday: High 104° Low 84° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Monday: High 106° Low 86° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Tuesday: High 108° Low 88° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Wednesday: High 110° Low 90° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Thursday: High 112° Low 92° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Friday: High 114° Low 94° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Saturday: High 116° Low 96° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Sunday: High 118° Low 98° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Monday: High 120° Low 100° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Tuesday: High 122° Low 102° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

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Saturday: High 130° Low 110° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Sunday: High 132° Low 112° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Monday: High 134° Low 114° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Tuesday: High 136° Low 116° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

Wednesday: High 138° Low 118° Weather: Partly cloudy with a few showers.

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## INTERNATIONAL

# PLO Leadership Likely To Delay Statehood Call

## Arafat Convenes Talks for Decision on Date

The Associated Press

GAZA — Yasser Arafat convened the PLO leadership Tuesday to decide whether to declare a Palestinian state on May 4, the more likely choice, extend peace talks with Israel for another year.

An extension was proposed by President Bill Clinton in a letter to Mr. Arafat, and the Palestinian leader called the plan "more than positive." Mr. Arafat had initially pledged to declare statehood on May 4, the target date for a permanent peace accord with Israel.

The final decision on a statehood declaration is up to the 124-member Palestinian Central Council, a Palestine Liberation Organization body stacked with Arafat loyalists. Still, an Arafat adviser, Nabil Amr, predicted heated arguments and said it would be difficult to anticipate the outcome.

In the West Bank town of Nablus, more than 1,000 Palestinians, including members of Mr. Arafat's Fatah movement, marched through the streets demanding a statehood declaration May 4.

## BRIEFLY

### Venezuela's Leader To Add New Powers

CARACAS — President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela has signed a law, approved by Congress, granting him special decree powers to tackle the country's economic crisis.

"I just signed the enactment of the law," Mr. Chavez said Monday. It would be officially published Tuesday and a six-month period would follow when the government will start issuing a series of laws, he added.

The powers cover debt refinancing, civil service reforms, tax increases, and privatizations, particularly of the electricity sector.

The move came one day after Mr. Chavez won a nationwide referendum approving a 131-member constituent assembly able to rewrite the constitution and grant the president sweeping powers.

The Venezuelan leader had clashed with Congress over the last few weeks, threatening to declare a nationwide state of emergency if lawmakers did not give him special powers to carry out tough economic reforms. (AP)

### Bogota Won't Meet Demands of Rebels

BOGOTA — Colombia has said it would not meet any demands issued by Marxist rebels for their release of more than 30 hostages, who were seized when the rebels hijacked a commercial airliner two weeks ago.

"The only possible response is the liberation of all occupants of the plane who are still being held as your hostages, without any sort of deals or demands," the government of President Andres Pastrana said in a statement Monday night.

The statement came hours after a communiqué from the Cuban-inspired National Liberation Army, Colombia's second-largest guerrilla army, in which it said it was preparing to free more of the passengers and crew seized during the hijacking and was preparing to issue a proposal to end the country's long-running war.

The rebel group has been holding 32 passengers and crew, including an American, in a swamp and jungle region in northern Bolivar Province. (Reuters)

### Iraqi Official Expects 'Aggression' by U.S.

BAGHDAD — Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan of Iraq said Tuesday that he expected a new "American aggression" aimed at Baghdad. "We expect the United States to launch a surprise military operation at any moment," Mr. Ramadan said, according to the official news agency, INA.

"The American military aggression against Iraq will continue as long as Iraq refuses to conform to Washington's resolutions and demands a lifting of the embargo," the official said. (AP)

### Bouteflika Sworn In As Algerian President

ALGIERS — Abdelaziz Bouteflika formally took over on Tuesday as Algeria's new president in a ceremony boycotted by opposition groups, which charge that his election was rigged by military.

Mr. Bouteflika, a former foreign minister, won a presidential election on April 15 after his foes pulled out of the election on the eve of the voting. (Reuters)

Continued from Page 1

[Taiwan cautiously welcomed the new guidelines. "We're watching developments and are optimistic about success," said Cheng Shih-yu, a Defense Ministry spokesman.]

The three bills passed Tuesday are expected to become law after being passed by Japan's less-important upper house of Parliament, probably next month. They were submitted by the Japanese government to Parliament a year ago, but they have been controversial because they run into sensitive questions about whether they are compatible with

Japan's "peace constitution" imposed in the aftermath of World War II.

Although Prime Minister Obuchi presumably is delighted that the bills passed in time to set a positive note for his visit to Washington, to achieve this he had to sacrifice some key elements.

In particular, Mr. Obuchi agreed to lay aside one of the essential parts of the bills — Japan's willingness to take part in ship inspections to enforce international sanctions — because it was controversial and was delaying passage of the other elements.

A separate bill on ship inspections will be worked out in the coming weeks.



A Belgrade resident removing broken glass Tuesday near a building that was reportedly hit by a NATO missile.

### DIPLOMACY: Allied List Is 'Nonnegotiable,' But Moscow Tries

Continued from Page 1

isty troops in Kosovo in October, compared with 40,000 now.

The alliance has insisted that Yugoslavia withdraw virtually all of its forces from Kosovo.

"The idea that those Serb military forces, police or paramilitary units who are responsible for the 'ethnic cleansing' and war crimes in Kosovo can stay is a non-starter," said James Rubin, the State Department spokesman.

The issue of an international presence to police a settlement is even more complicated.

"We started from a position where Belgrade refused to accept any foreign military presence, including a Russian one," Mr. Ivanov said. "After our official talks, Belgrade has officially confirmed its readiness to accept an international presence under the auspices of the United Nations."

Mr. Ivanov said that Russia was prepared to send peacekeeping troops but that it would be very difficult for Mr. Milosevic to accept a force that essentially was under NATO control.

"Put yourself in the place of Yugoslavia's leaders," he said. "Would you allow the same people who destroyed your country to carry out the peacekeeping operation?"

NATO has insisted that it play the lead role in any peacekeeping operation. The alliance has said that lightly-armed United Nations peacekeepers would not do.

"In the absence of a credible military presence, Kosovo refugees cannot come back," Mr. Rubin said, "and we are determined to create the conditions for them to come back. A force with NATO at its core will provide the magnet for them to return."

Thousands of British soldiers are assembling in Macedonia for the mission, and the British defense minister has said that it was just a matter of time before they were deployed.

A third issue cropped up in Mr. Talbot's talks: the final status of Kosovo.

According to diplomats in Moscow, Russian officials told Mr. Talbot that Moscow would not support the idea of a

international protectorate for the province.

Allied leaders have been discussing a

protectorate as an alternative to the Ram-

bouillet agreement. British officials, in

particular, have questioned whether Mr.

Milosevic has any right to govern

a state on May 4.

"In the end, we don't want to lose our people's confidence," said Azmi Shabani, a lawmaker and member of the Central Council. "The image is that the Palestinian Authority and the president are not serious in achieving the goals that were promised in the peace process."

Through negotiations, Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority has managed to wrest partial control of 29 percent of the West Bank from Israel — a patchwork of bits of noncontiguous territory that hardly forms the basis of a state. Palestinian control was supposed to rise to 40 percent under the agreement brokered last fall by President Bill Clinton.

But Mr. Netanyahu, under intense pressure from his conservative political base, halted implementation of the accord and accused the Palestinians of failing to meet their end of the deal — to reduce the number of police, seize illegal weapons, stop anti-Israel incitement in the media and fight terrorism. Soon after that, his government fell and new elections were called, freezing the peace process.

Mr. Arafat is determined not to leave the question of statehood open-ended — a recipe, many Palestinians fear, for indefinite, stateless limbo. May 4, Mr. Arafat has said, is a "sacred date" that cannot be allowed to pass as just another day.

### JAPAN: Parliament Acts to Widen Military Role With U.S.

Continued from Page 1

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The three bills passed Tuesday are expected to become law after being passed by Japan's less-important upper house of Parliament, probably next month. They were submitted by the Japanese government to Parliament a year ago, but they have been controversial because they run into sensitive questions about whether they are compatible with

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MUCH MORE THAN TALK

## China's Hard-to-Define Protesters Came Out of Nowhere

By Seth Faison  
New York Times Service

BEIJING — The most amazing thing about the well-organized protest that occurred here Sunday was the ease with which more than 10,000 followers of a religious sect materialized at the door of China's leadership and then vanished.

To the authorities, who are nervous about any unsanctioned gathering, it can only be unsettling that so many people assembled without warning, essentially walking up to the secretive compound where China's leaders live and work, and sitting silently for an entire day.

Unlike student protesters who noisily thronged the streets of Beijing with colorful banners and pungent slogans 10 years ago, the demonstrators Sunday drew no attention to themselves and

attracted no notice until there were suddenly many thousand of them sitting quietly in one of the most politically sensitive locations in the nation.

They looked like ordinary people from different parts of China, which they were. Here lies a puzzle — and for China's leaders, the scariest thing about the protest.

As followers of a sect of *qigong*, a traditional Chinese teaching that human energy can be cultivated by yoga-like disciplines and directed to improve one's own health, to heal others and, when mastered, to achieve powers like flying, the protesters represent an amorphous and hard-to-control body that is deeply confident and far-reaching.

An overwhelming majority of Chinese believe in *qigong* to some ex-

tent, making it hard to know exactly who belongs to the sect called Buddhist Law, which carried out the protest.

Buddhist Law, led by a *qigong* master named Li Hongzhi, claims to have more than 100 million followers. Even if that is an exaggeration, the government's estimate of 70 million adherents represents a large group in a nation of 1.2 billion.

Throughout Chinese history, mysticism has played a critical role in times of political turmoil, attracting adherents confused by sudden changes in society and becoming explosively violent when the authorities act to suppress them.

Anyone who doubts the potential strength of such a sect need only have witnessed the protest Sunday, when the followers seemed to appear from nowhere, sitting immobile and silent on sidewalks in the heart of Beijing. Even if

efforts by many of them to direct mystical energy at the leadership compound fell short, their impressive organization left a significant imprint on Beijing.

Conducting a demonstration in this city is no easy trick.

Plainclothes police and informers are everywhere, keeping an eye out for any hint of organized protest. Even lone protesters who tried to unfurl banners on the street during a meeting of China's legislature last month were whisked away, usually within minutes.

Prime Minister Zhu Rongji met several representatives of the sect Sunday and directed government officials Monday to form a clear strategy to handle the group's complaints.

[On Tuesday, Chinese authorities agreed to listen to the grievances of the sect, Agence France-Presse reported.

["The government has never banned various *qigong* activities, so any controversy can be settled through normal channels," said a spokesman from the news office of the State Council, China's cabinet.]

### ■ A Low-Profile Leader

Joseph Kahn of *The New York Times* reported earlier from New York:

The leader and founder of Buddhist Law, Mr. Li, a 47-year-old native of Changchun in northeastern China who now calls New York home, keeps a low public profile even as his books, audio and video tapes and Web sites spread his message to tens of millions of people around the world.

Close associates say they do not know where he is now. They assert that he has no formal organization. Like a rebel leader on the run, he sometimes appears at conferences his followers sponsor in Asia, North America or Europe, but with little advance notice.

"We have no organization," said Yi Rong, an associate of Mr. Li's based in New York. "No one talks to him regularly except maybe his family."

"We had a research society in China once, but this has been abolished."

Despite that elusiveness, or maybe because of it, Mr. Li has become a guru of a movement that even by Chinese government estimates has more members than the Communist Party. Beijing puts the tally of followers in his mystical movement at 70 million. Its practitioners say they do not dispute those numbers. But they say they have no way of knowing for sure, in part because they have no central membership lists.

Amorphousness makes practical sense. The Communist Party suppresses unauthorized organizations of any kind, whether they explicitly oppose Com-

unist rule or not.

The demonstration on Sunday in Beijing involved more than 10,000 followers. But Ms. Yi insisted that Mr. Li did not know about the demonstration beforehand. "I'm quite sure that not only did he not organize this, but he did not even know about it. We all learned about it just yesterday," she said, but she acknowledged that her certainty was tempered by her inability to contact Mr. Li or to pinpoint his whereabouts.

Mr. Li has fashioned a mind and body spiritual exercise program intended to allow adherents to live a moral life, remain free of disease and achieve enlightenment. In the early 1990s, people who follow Mr. Li said, he built up a network of students around China, lecturing thousands at a time. Last year, under pressure from the government, he left China for the United States. Exile appeared to do nothing to limit his popularity in China, even as he spread his gospel to Americans and Europeans.



Azizah Ismail, right, wife of the imprisoned former deputy prime minister, leaving court in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday with their two children.

## Manila Shrugs at Protest Of Visit by Anwar's Wife

By Thomas Fuller  
International Herald Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR — President Joseph Estrada of the Philippines on Tuesday ignored protests by Kuala Lumpur over a planned visit to Manila by the wife of the fiercest critic of Malaysia's president, saying the trip did not amount to "interference" in Malaysia's internal affairs.

Azizah Ismail, who is head of the opposition National Justice Party and whose husband, Ibrahim Anwar, was dismissed as Malaysia's deputy prime minister, is due to arrive in the Philippines on Wednesday for a three-day visit.

The trip has angered the Malaysian government, which on Monday summoned the Philippine ambassador to register its "unlease."

Malaysia "views seriously" any country that gives Mr. Anwar's wife room to develop her political agenda. Malaysia's foreign minister, Hamid Albar, said Monday, referring to Mrs. Azizah, "We regard this as an attempt to interfere in Malaysia's domestic politics, and we hope the Philippines will understand our stand."

Mr. Estrada, who has in the past criticized the way Kuala Lumpur handled Mr. Anwar's ouster from government and subsequent trial, rejected the Malaysian minister's claim.

"That is not interfering with the internal affairs of Malaysia," he said Tuesday in the Philippine resort town of Boracay. "Everybody is welcome here," he

said, adding: "We have to prove to them that we are a free country."

"Noninterference" in a neighbor's affairs has long been a mantra for Southeast Asian countries. But political scientists who have studied diplomatic relations in the region say Malaysia's claim is unusual.

"To allow the leader of a legally recognized political party to visit another country, and maybe even to meet with the leadership of that country, that's never been considered intervention," said John Funston, senior fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore.

Mr. Anwar is planning to meet with Mr. Estrada during her trip, which is partly sponsored by a foundation run by the former Philippines president, Corazon Aquino.

"I'm not doing anything wrong," Mrs. Azizah said Tuesday outside a courtroom where her husband pleaded not guilty to a charge of sodomy. "I'm actually enhancing bilateral relations."

Mr. Anwar was sentenced earlier this month to six years in prison on corruption charges. Since his dismissal from government last September by President Mahathir bin Mohamad, he has gone from being the country's heir apparent to the toughest critic of the government.

Mr. Anwar's trial date in the sodomy case will be determined sometime early next month, a judge ruled Tuesday. Government lawyers told the judge that four other sodomy charges and one additional

corruption charge were "suspended."

The former deputy prime minister has appealed his corruption conviction and said he would fight the sodomy charge, which he vehemently denies.

Mr. Anwar's dismissal and beating in custody last year sparked criticism across the region, especially among the most influential countries: Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

Sources close to the Malaysian government say Kuala Lumpur fears that Mrs. Azizah could help sway leaders in those countries and dilute Malaysia's influence within the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Before the onset of the country's political crisis, set off by Mr. Anwar's dismissal last year, Kuala Lumpur played a leading role in the regional association, known as ASEAN.

"I think the powers that be are afraid that this visit could spark off another

round of isolation of Malaysia by the three big powers in ASEAN," said a foreign policy adviser to the government.

During his time in government, Mr. Anwar became a well-known figure in the region, befriending leaders like Mr. Estrada and President B.J. Habibie of Indonesia.

But beyond those friendships, analysts say, the Anwar case has highlighted a fault line in the association between countries that are pushing for greater openness in the grouping and those wishing to stick to the strict interpretation of noninterference.

"The concern is that there would be a change in the notion of how ASEAN should behave," said the Malaysian foreign policy adviser.

Thailand proposed last year at the annual summit meeting a policy of "flexible engagement." The idea, proposed by Malaysia, was voted down.

## East Timorese to Decide Political Future on Aug. 8

UN-Sponsored Vote Could Lead to Independence

Compiled by Our Staff in East Timor

**NUSA DUA, Indonesia** — A United Nations-sponsored vote that could lead to independence for East Timor has been scheduled for Aug. 8. President B.J. Habibie of Indonesia said Tuesday.

Mr. Habibie announced the date of the vote to be held in the former Portuguese colony with a population of 800,000 after holding talks with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia on the island of Bali.

The president said the voting would be supervised by a six-nation team and that police advisers appointed by the United Nations would help Indonesia's military maintain security.

He said the East Timorese would be allowed to determine their future "in peace and with honor."

The president added, "We will accept whatever they decide, whether it is integration or separation."

Since taking office last year after the fall of former President Suharto, Mr. Habibie has promoted democratic reforms.

The armed forces, criticized for backing violent pro-Jakarta militias in East Timor, said they would back the plan. "Next month the United Nations will send police to give assistance to the Indonesian police" for the voting, said the armed forces commander, General Wiranto.

Pro-independence activists, who believe they will win the vote overwhelmingly, welcomed the news. But they called for a full UN peacekeeping presence, saying some in the military had tried to stymie the vote by backing attacks by anti-independence militias.

A spokesman from the militias condemned the announcement and promised to maintain the fight to keep the territory part of Indonesia.

Mr. Suharto's forces invaded East Timor in 1975 and annexed it a year later.

The United Nations, which did not recognize the annexation, has been heavily involved in setting up the vote. UN representatives completed details with Indonesia and Portugal last week. Portugal is East Timor's former colonial ruler.

Under Indonesian rule, the territory has been wracked by guerrilla warfare and human-rights abuses.

In a policy reversal in January, Mr. Habibie said the province could become independent if a majority in East Timorese rejected an offer to become an autonomous state within Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous nation.

Violence has escalated in East Timor in recent months, raising fears that the ballot might be further delayed. It had been scheduled for July.

Dozens have been killed by the anti-independence militiamen who pro-in-

dependence groups say have been armed and trained by some in the Indonesian military.

Pro-independence guerrillas have struck back sporadically.

Mr. Habibie said six nations — Australia, Japan, the Philippines, Germany, Britain and the United States — would be invited to supervise the voting.

They, and possibly other countries, would be asked to provide an unspecified number of police advisers to help Indonesia's army and police keep the peace before and during the vote.

The president did not say whether rival paramilitary groups would be forced to disarm.

Mr. Habibie said he would announce the result of the vote Aug. 29 at a meeting in Jakarta of the People's Consultative Assembly, Indonesia's highest legislative body.

Anti-independence groups were quick to condemn Mr. Habibie's decision to proceed with the ballot.

"It will never solve the conflict in East Timor," said Florencio Viera, a spokesman for the anti-independence forces. "East Timor with greater autonomy is our choice, and that's final," Mr. Viera said. "The East Timorese are blind when it comes to politics. It's impossible for them to choose. If the ballot is carried out, the winners will be proud, and the losers won't accept that."

David Ximenes of the National Council for Timorese Resistance hailed the announcement but said: "We need more than police advisers. We really need a peacekeeping force." (AP, Reuters)

### BRIEFLY

#### U.S. to Inspect Site In North Korea

GENEVA — Talks between North and South Korea, the United States and China wound up Tuesday with little sign of progress toward reducing tension on the Korean Peninsula and achieving a permanent peace.

But a senior U.S. official said that American inspectors would be given access in May to a underground nuclear site in North Korea suspected of being used to develop weapons.

The date and other access issues were discussed by U.S. and North Korean officials on the sidelines of the four-way peace talks, the official added.

Concluding the fifth round of four-round talks, a joint statement read out by the U.S. special envoy, Charles Kartman, said that "serious differences in positions exist." A sixth round of talks is planned to begin in August. (AP, AFP)

#### China Executes Railroad Bombers

BEIJING — Two Chinese government officials, including a focal justice chief, have been executed for bombing a rail line in northern China, a court official said Tuesday.

Li Hongxin, 41, director of the Xingtai County justice bureau in Hebei Province, and Wang Qinghu, 46, deputy section chief of the county archives bureau, were executed Friday, the official said. He declined to give further details.

The China Youth Daily said Mr. Li, a Communist Party member, was disgruntled because he had not been given enough authority and did not make money from helping to set up a mine.

Mr. Li reportedly asked a cousin and Mr. Wang to help him "get back at society."

No casualties were reported in the Jan. 20 bombing, but the blast disrupted traffic along a section of the rail line linking Beijing and the southern boomtown of Guangzhou. (Reuters)

#### Ex-Khmer Leader Implicates Others

PHNOM PENH — The former Khmer Rouge military chief, Ta Mok, has told investigators 20 to 30 of his former comrades were responsible for the group's 1970s reign of terror, a military court official said Tuesday.

Mr. Ta Mok is the only leader of the group to be charged and facing trial, but a military court prosecutor said others could be charged.

Mr. Ta Mok, captured in Cambodia on March 6, had denied being the power behind the 1975-79 regime when more than a million people were executed or died from overwork, starvation or other abuse.

Officials at the court and the air base refused to release the men's hometowns. The men will serve their sentences in Japanese custody.

Airman Tuttle admitted hitting Mr. Ishizuka on the head with a flashlight, and both airmen said they hit the victim on the head and back, the court official said. (AP)

#### For the Record

Sabotage and dangerous cargo have been ruled out by Chinese investigators as possible causes of a Korean Air crash this month, which killed eight people. (Reuters)

## Tussle Erupts in Indian House Over Date of the New Election

Agence France-Presse

NEW DELHI — One day after the dissolution of India's Parliament, a battle broke out Tuesday between the rival parties over possible election dates.

No sooner had President K. R. Narayanan dissolved the lower house of Parliament on Monday than the recriminations began, as party leaders sought to lay the blame for a third election in as many years on their rivals, and even supposed allies.

The Hindu nationalists, who led the coalition government that collapsed on April 17 after 13 months in power, want early polls in June, but the independent Election Commission has said it will have to wait until late July at the earliest.

The whole issue of election dates

should not be kept in a state of suspense as it will adversely affect the economy and the administration," said K. L. Sharma, vice president of outgoing Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpeyi's Bharatiya Janata Party.

The party believes an early ballot will bring in a sympathy vote amid public disquiet at the way the opposition parties toppled Mr. Vajpeyi's coalition by a single vote in Parliament and then failed to provide an alternative.

The Hindu nationalists moved quickly Tuesday to keep any embers of public resentment burning.

Setting the tone of the coming campaign, a Bharatiya Janata advertisement on Tuesday condemned the opposition leader Sonia Gandhi and her allies for fo

## EUROPE

**British Civil Courts Cease and Desist Using Obsolete Terms**By T. R. Reid  
Washington Post Service

LONDON — Come it now the defendant, guardian ad litem for the plaintiff in the action sub judice, to aver sua sponte that the ex parte writ seeking a Mareva was quashed following in camera adjudication of the locus in quo.

That kind of language — rich in tradition, but much of it in Latin and almost impossible for litigants to understand — has been part and parcel of the British legal system for hundreds of years. But this week, civil courts here issued a death sentence to antique terminology and switched their proceedings to plain English.

Partly plain English, that is.

The new court rules — designating a “writ” as a “claim form,” an “interrogatory” as a “request for information,” an “ex parte hearing” as a “hearing without notice to the other side,” a “guardian ad litem” as a “litigation friend” and

“in camera” as “in private” — will presumably help clients understand their lawyers.

But some of the changes may not add significantly to public comprehension. In Britain’s new legal lexicon, the mystifying term “Calderbank offer” will be replaced with the equally mystifying “Part 36 offer.” And the term “payment into court” will be replaced with “Part 36 payment,” which is arguably more obscure.

These adjustments in the language of the law are part of an overall package of procedural changes that took effect Monday in the courts of England and Wales. The so-called “Big Bang” is the largest shake-up in the legal system in more than a century, according to Lord Irvine of Lairg, the lord chancellor — that is, the cabinet official responsible for courts and the legal profession.

“It has been obvious for some years that the legal system is too slow, too expensive and too complicated for most people to use,” said Tanya Joseph, of the lord chancellor’s office. “People

can’t afford to go to court, and people who do get their day in court can’t understand what the judges and lawyers are saying. So we’ve tried to make things cheaper, clearer and faster.”

“Making changes is not easy, because we’re dealing with 800 years of established practice,” said John Lambert, a lawyer who has written a book explaining the new system. “And, of course, the solicitors don’t like the changes because the new rules mean a lot of people can get their cases heard without hiring a solicitor.”

A major cause of court backlog is personal injury litigation — primarily, people suing over auto accidents. The new system is designed to speed those cases three litigation tracks.

The first is the equivalent of a small-claims process and involves such simple procedures that most people will not need a lawyer. Mr. Lambert said. “To encourage litigants to try these cases themselves, no lawyers’ fees will be awarded by the courts. In British courts, the losing side is

almost always required to pay court costs and lawyers’ fees.”

A second track — a simplified trial to be completed in a single day — will be available for claims up to about \$25,000.

For major civil cases involving larger claims, judges will be given more power to limit the time lawyers spend on discovery, deposition and trial.

The linguistic and procedural changes put into effect do not extend to the courts of Scotland or Northern Ireland, which have independent legal systems. And they do not extend to criminal courts — meaning, presumably, that defense lawyers in murder cases will still challenge the prosecution to produce a corpus delicti.

There is one relic that will continue unchanged. Judges and barristers will still wear black gowns and small white wigs on their heads.

“The wig? Oh, we wouldn’t touch the wig,” said a worker in the lord chancellor’s office. “You can only take reform so far, you know.”

**BRIEFLY****Germany Tries Ex-Gestapo Agent**

STUTTGART — A 79-year-old former Gestapo agent who has confessed to shooting 500 people at a Nazi concentration camp went on trial in Germany on Tuesday.

Alfons Goetzfried is charged with assisting in the murders of 17,000 people, mostly Jews, at the Majdanek camp in Poland in 1943. Mr. Goetzfried, who testified as a witness at several Nazi war-crimes trials in Russia and Britain, incriminated himself under questioning. But prosecutors said they could not charge him with murder because of a lack of evidence and his low rank in the command structure.

On Tuesday, Mr. Goetzfried denied the charges against him. He told the court he joined the German army in 1941 as a horse groom and was assigned to the police unit. A verdict is expected May 20. (AP)

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**Call to Arms By Yugoslavia Is Rejected In Montenegro**By William Booth  
Washington Post Service

PODGORICA, Yugoslavia — What if they had a war and nobody showed up? That is what is happening here in Montenegro — Serbia’s smaller, weaker partner in the Yugoslav federation — where an army of young men is refusing to answer the call to war issued by the Yugoslav military and the Belgrade regime of President Slobodan Milosevic.

There are thousands of them. In the last few weeks, most Yugoslav Army reservists in Montenegro, from cabinet ministers to cab drivers, have participated in massive resistance to a call-up by the Serb-dominated army.

Branded as traitors by Yugoslavia and facing the possibility of being hauled before a military tribunal and put into prison, these resisters have simply chosen not to put on their uniforms and be dragged into a conflict they are trying as hard as they can to avoid.

On the banks of the Moraca River, cold and green with the spring flood, a computer technician, Dragan Popovic, and his girlfriend sat embracing on a warm afternoon. “Why should I put on the uniform? This is not my war. This is the war of a madman,” Mr. Popovic said, apparently referring to Mr. Milosevic.

While technically an equal partner in the Yugoslav federation, Montenegro has often been bullied by its more aggressive federal partner. Montenegro’s government has declared that it is opposed both to the NATO bombing and the Milosevic regime, and over the past 15 months it has been slowly but steadily leaning toward the West. Many here think Montenegro will move to become an independent nation after the current crisis; meanwhile, NATO and U.S. officials have declared that it will be spared as much as possible from the alliance’s air assault.

The Serb-controlled Yugoslav government has made repeated attempts to bring Montenegro into line, demanding that it declare a state of emergency, placing all of its resources — including police forces and fuel supplies — under the control of the Yugoslav 2nd Army, commanded by a Milosevic loyalist. The army has harassed and threatened with arrest journalists and government officials, while its leaders have attempted



Serbian police filmed this Kosovo refugee family as it crossed the frontier into Albania on April 2.

to usurp the power of the civilian police.

Of all Belgrade’s demands, the greatest provocation has been the call for mass mobilization of thousands of reserve troops here — to which the overwhelming response has been, no thanks.

“I know thousands of young guys who are rejecting the call,” said Dragan Soc, the Montenegrin justice minister. While exact numbers are not known, Mr. Soc and others estimate that as many as 25,000 reserve troops may have been called to active duty but that only about one in 10 answered the knock at the door.

Mr. Soc, who holds the rank of private in the army reserve, is a case in point. “They came to my home, and my father told them he could not accept my orders. When they finally found me, I told them I cannot accept their papers, so they left the door by the door.”

Mr. Popovic, the computer technician, said of his encounter with the draft: “My mother told them I was not home. So they said, ‘Okay, where is he?’ My mother said that she did not know. ‘Okay, when will he be home?’ And she said, ‘Two months.’”

With a population of about 630,000, Montenegro is too small and too vulnerable to confront the Milosevic regime

openly. And so Montenegrins have dodged and feinted, hoping to weary the Belgrade apparatus and buy time.

So far, the strategy has worked. But Monday there were reports that up to 1,500 troops loyal to Mr. Milosevic had entered Montenegro from Serbia to take up positions in three cities, including the port city of Bar on the Adriatic Sea. This worries Montenegrin officials, who fear the troops in Bar might attempt to seize fuel depots at the port or fire at NATO warplanes or ships, potentially dragging Montenegro deeper into the conflict.

To refuse to serve in the Yugoslav Army exposes the young Montenegrin reservists to taunts that they are cowards and traitors by pro-Milosevic, pro-Serbian elements here.

One military pilot, who has not yet been called to duty, said that he felt deeply ambivalent about his role. He opposes the war and Mr. Milosevic, but he said he also wondered whether he could abandon his squadron if it is called to fight. “I would think that it would go to war to defend my friends,” he said, “but this is not a rational thought. This is pure emotion.”

Mr. Soc, the justice minister, said he knew of only a handful of reservists who had been hauled before military tribunals, which seem to be trying to usurp the power of civilian courts and

authorities.

One of Belgrade’s problems is that the Yugoslav Army has no prisons in Montenegro and the Montenegrin police have said they will not hold any military resisters in their jails. Mr. Soc has repeatedly stated that all reservists who refuse the call to arms will be granted amnesty.

The most high-profile cases have involved government officials, such as Mr. Soc. There are at least three cabinet ministers, one prominent journalist and many physicians and engineers who say they have been targeted by the Yugoslav Army for their refusal to appear for duty or for their outspoken stance against the war.

“I said the army should not be allowed to use Montenegro in its fight against NATO,” said Novak Kilibarda, deputy prime minister of Montenegro. “I also told our guys not to obey the order to appear for duty.”

For this, the military tribunal here demanded that Mr. Kilibarda appear before them. He has refused. But each night he sleeps at the Crna Gora Hotel with two policemen outside his door guarding him. Mr. Kilibarda himself feels relatively safe, but he understands the plight of less influential men who refuse to submit to the military call-up.

“They are the real heroes,” he said.

**Children, Lost in the Chaos, Wait for Their Parents**By David Rohde  
New York Times Service

BRAZDA, Macedonia — Each time a busload of refugees runs into the dusty refugee camp here, Murat Begir, 14, scans the faces peering from the windows.

One day, when he heard his family name called over a bullhorn by an aid worker searching for a specific refugee, he scrambled out of his tent hoping that he might find his mother or father. Every day he tries to call home to Pristina, even though the line has been dead for days.

“I think they are trapped in Pristina,” said Murat, a drawl and distract look on his youthful face. “I think they can’t get out now.”

In the chaotic hours when ethnic Albanians were forced from their Kosovo homes, hundreds of parents and children lost track of one another.

Some of the children, who range from toddlers to teenagers, crossed the border here alone or with relatives. Others were separated when Macedonian police officers forced 50,000 Kosovo Albanians out of a makeshift refugee camp near the border three weeks ago.

Murat, who lives in a tent with his 25-year-old sister and her husband in the sprawling refugee camp of 27,000 in Brazda, last saw his father when he told him and his sister to leave home and take a train to Macedonia as word spread in Pristina that Yugoslav forces were ordering people to leave.

“My father said, ‘You go, we’ll catch up with you.’” Murat said. “We waited for three hours. They never came.”

He managed to reach his parents at a neighbor’s house a week ago, but has heard nothing since.

Lost children have been a tragic by-product of many refugee crises. But the chaotic nature of the exodus from Kosovo, the actions of the Macedonian government, and a complicated international evacuation program have made efforts to reunite families particularly daunting.

Adding to the potential problem, 70 percent of the estimated 1.8 million ethnic Albanians in



Ethnic Albanians leaving a border camp Tuesday, headed for camps in Macedonia.

families, Macedonian officials flew 2,000 refugees to Turkey, bused 15,000 to Albania and divided the rest among six camps here.

When the sun came up, Jehona Aliu, a 5-year-old girl, was found wandering alone in the remains of the camp. Aid workers have posted her photograph in the larger refugee camps in Macedonia and are trying to determine whether her parents were sent to Turkey or Albania.

Three weeks have passed, but Jehona’s parents have not emerged.

British NATO soldiers at first cared for her, but she is now living with a refugee family in Macedonia. They are missing children of their own. The International Committee of the Red Cross

says Murat and Jehona are two of 253 ethnic Albanian children in Macedonia refugee camps separated from their parents. But there are other children unaccounted for, because 776 parents have reported that their children are missing and are not on the Red Cross lists.

Of lost children aid workers know about, few have been completely abandoned and most are being cared for by relatives. The Red Cross is posting the names of children it has located on bulletin boards in the camps here, hoping parents or relatives will come forward. But with refugees here being evacuated to a dozen countries in Europe, it could prove difficult to find them quickly.

So far, though, only 54 children have been reunited with their parents through the efforts of the Red Cross and Save the Children.

Aid workers predict that parents and children are not likely to be reunited for weeks, possibly months, and that countless other relatives — siblings, aunts, uncles and grandparents — are also missing.

“I would say we are just dealing now with the tip of the iceberg,” said Francois Zen-Ruffini, a Red Cross spokesman. “We’re starting with children. They are the priority. But just about every single family is missing a relative.”

Families started scattering even before the NATO air strikes. Many parents hustled their children out of larger towns and cities to the rural homes of relatives for safekeeping. But when Yugoslav forces launched a major offensive after the bombing began, hundreds of parents were blocked from retrieving their children.

Even families that began the flight from Kosovo together were sometimes separated. Panicked crowds swarmed aboard trains headed for the border and the Serbian police cut off convoys of cars, ordering some to the border, and others back into Kosovo.

Other parents said they were forcibly separated from their children. Hyzir Gaytan, 24, and his wife, Imrani, 20, said the Serbian police expelled them from their home in Pristina and then blocked them from going to the hospital where their premature baby was in an incubator.

“It’s been 17 days,” Mr. Gaytan said, holding his first, and only, child’s birth certificate. “We don’t know where he is.” Phone calls to the doctor in Pristina have not been answered.

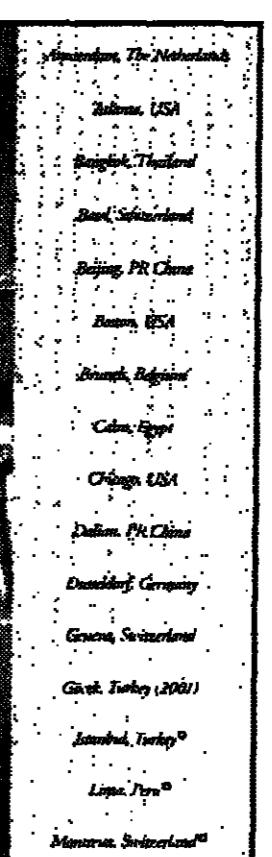


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Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt (2001)

## EDITORIALS/OPINION

## INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

## Kosovo Strategies

Like President John Kennedy's naval quarantine of Cuba during the 1962 missile crisis, NATO's planned embargo on oil shipments to Serbia is not called a blockade by diplomats, for fear that term of war could widen the conflict. But the intent is clear — use a naval armada in the Adriatic Sea to deny Slobodan Milosevic's forces the fuel they need to operate in Kosovo. If executed with a healthy regard for Russian sensibilities, it can sap Serbian strength and speed the way to a political settlement.

As the war in Yugoslavia enters its second month, NATO is searching for a combination of force and diplomacy that will induce Mr. Milosevic to reach for a peace deal. Last weekend's NATO summit meeting in Washington endorsed several potentially productive steps in that direction, including the naval action, intensification of the air war and a subtle but significant shift in the alliance's conditions for a ceasefire. All of these can support a critical round of diplomacy that was to begin this Tuesday in Moscow, with Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott meeting Russian leaders.

The interdiction of oil tankers will not cut off petroleum supplies to Serbia. Smugglers will be eager to collect the premium fees that come with running a blockade, and some overland shipments are likely to continue. But after bombing Serbian refineries it would be a mistake not to try to limit the flow of oil through Yugoslav ports.

Russia has been sending oil to Ser-

bia and NATO must work with Moscow to avoid a confrontation with tankers carrying Russian fuel. The alliance cannot afford to provoke military tensions with Russia or drive the Kremlin from the peacemaking role that Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said on Monday his country is now playing. The best way to avoid either possibility is to persuade the Russians not to send further shipments to Serbia. The subject should be on Mr. Talbott's agenda.

Although Mr. Ivanov made clear in an interview that NATO and Mr. Milosevic remain far apart on peace terms, Mr. Talbott was carrying an important concession from the alliance. NATO is now prepared to suspend bombing when Serbian forces begin to leave Kosovo, rather than waiting for a withdrawal to be completed. NATO also signaled some flexibility over the weekend about the composition and command of an international peacekeeping force in Kosovo, saying it would seek a UN Security Council mandate for the troops. That would require Russian assent.

It is unfortunate that the NATO meeting dodged whether to start assembling ground forces in the Balkans to keep open the option of a land campaign. The additional pressure might help move Mr. Milosevic.

For now, the best strategy is to press ahead with bombing, organize the blockade and be imaginative in the pursuit of diplomacy.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Help the Timorese

Army-sponsored militias are on the rampage in the Indonesian territory of East Timor. They are stirring up violence against independence-seeking activists and threatening to foreclose an early plebiscite by which the Timorese are to choose between autonomy and independence.

East Timor is the small former Portuguese colony (for three centuries) that Indonesia invaded in 1975 and repressed thereafter. The chance to break this pattern of Third World colonization arose only last year when the military-backed Suharto regime was replaced by the administration of B.J. Habibie. The United Nations opened peace talks that produced an Indonesian offer, confirmed on Friday, to let the Timorese choose between a liberal autonomy or independence outright. It was the least Indonesia could do.

But it was too much for civilian hard-liners in the cabinet and for un-

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

## The Global Economy

When you recall how global economic collapse was seen as a real possibility not so long ago, current conditions must be seen as encouraging. The mandarins of the financial world are declaring the world financial crisis solved, or at least "bottomed out." Financial markets in Asia are reviving. Brazil weathered its devaluation better than expected, and its neighbors suffered less than feared. All in all, the "contagion" of collapse seems to have been contained.

This is good news, no doubt. But, at the risk of being curmudgeonly, we think a few cautions may be in order.

Markets have turned up in some developing countries, but not in all, and even the healthiest remain fragile. Political uncertainty in the world's third- and fourth-most populous nations, Russia and Indonesia, continues to block economic recovery there. If there is to be a global upturn, it will depend on growth in the three major developed economies of the world: Europe, Japan and the United States. Growth in Europe remains slow, as does the progress of structural reform in Japan. That leaves the United States, which, as U.S. officials have repeatedly said, cannot remain forever the sole engine of growth. Moreover, consumer spending in America depends in some real if unquantifiable way on the soaring stock market; a dip in the Dow could dampen growth throughout the U.S. economy.

Then there is the question of whether the right lessons have been learned from the scare that began in July 1997 with the devaluation of Thailand's currency — and whether incipient recovery will relieve the pressure for nec-

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

essary reform. One consensus that has emerged is that free market reforms can be implemented only alongside regulatory reforms. Too much government intrusion is unhealthy, but quality government oversight is essential. Particularly in South Korea and Thailand, this lesson has been taken to heart. But whether difficult reforms will continue even in those leading cases once there is no longer a perception of crisis remains to be seen.

The same is true on a global level. U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin has been right to oppose huge structural changes that might cause more problems than they solve. But now the banking industry is resisting even modest reforms meant to ensure that it bears more of the risk of lending to the developing world. Such change would slow the flow of capital to poor countries, the banks protest, but that is just the point. Capital flows should reflect the real economic environment. Loans made without an honest assessment of the risk, with an assumption that the IMF and the taxpayers behind it will pick up the pieces if things go wrong, end up doing more harm than good even to the borrowers.

Finally, it is important to remember that recovery in the stock, bond and currency markets is not the same as recovery for the ordinary people who suffered most in the collapses of the past 21 or so months. Many middle-class people were pushed into poverty, and many poor families have become more so. Their suffering and dashed hopes must remain a focus of financial policymakers in the developed world.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

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## The World's War on Poverty Has Yet to Be Won

By Joseph Stiglitz

WASHINGTON — The war on global poverty has had its share of victories. Life expectancy at birth in developing countries is now 65 years, up five years since 1980. Infant mortality has dropped from 87 deaths per thousand births in 1980 to 60 today. More than half of all young people attend secondary school in developing countries.

In some places, progress has been dramatic. In Indonesia, for example, 60 percent of the people live in poverty in 1975. This year, despite a deep recession and financial crisis, the figure is around 7 percent.

But the war on poverty must continue, because much remains to be done. Too often, the benefits of development have not been evenly shared.

World Development Indicators 1999, published by the World Bank on Monday, shows that per capita income in sub-Saharan Africa fell from 1965 to 1997, even as it soared by 40 percent in East Asia.

The meteoric growth, and more recently the sharp reversal, of some East Asian

economies show how development can reduce poverty rapidly, but also how many of these benefits can suddenly vanish. The chain reaction of financial crisis that burned through East Asia and Russia and shook Brazil has pushed millions back into poverty.

Despite the impressive reduction in poverty in some regions, the gap between rich and poor is widening. Education for some has resulted in rising incomes, but it has left the unskilled further behind. Also, new industries such as electronics and information technology have sparked booms in some regions but left others — including China's interior, northeastern Thailand and the more remote islands of Indonesia — to wither.

Economic growth does not help the poor much in countries where distribution of wealth is highly unequal. The poor in these countries do not enjoy many of the benefits of boom times, but they do shoulder the costs of collapse.

In societies of high inequality, growth allows the poor to keep their heads just above water. When it stalls, they sink.

The social impact of the East Asian crisis has been enormous. Millions of family breadwinners have been thrown out of work. Their sudden unemployment and loss of income are all the more difficult because the economic boom in their region steadily eroded traditional Asian safety nets of family and community support, much as a similar process did in the West 50 years ago.

These social networks, which once met the needs of children, the elderly and the sick, have not yet been replaced by new state or private-sector-based structures that are up to the task. As traditional informal welfare systems decline, without new government-funded ones yet in place, the social fallout from the crisis hits the poor hard.

After a generation of rising living standards, poverty is growing again in many countries.

Even before the crisis, poverty was undermining transition in Eastern Europe. In 1989 about 14 million people in the former Communist bloc lived on less than \$4 a day. By the mid-1990s that number had risen to about 147 million.

In the former Soviet Union, the introduction of capitalism has uneasily with deepening poverty and inequality, which have worsened as a result of the East Asia crisis. Most countries of the former Soviet Union have lower per capita income and worse social conditions than they did 10 years ago.

Poverty and inequality have increased elsewhere, too, from Venezuela to Bangladesh and sub-Saharan Africa, where hard-won increases in life expectancy are being rolled back.

Successful development will also be enhanced when governments and their agencies, as well as private companies, are run in an honest, accountable and transparent manner.

The writer, senior vice president and chief economist of the World Bank, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

## Global Recovery Coming Soon? Maybe So, but Nobody Knows

By Robert J. Samuelson

WASHINGTON — What we know about the global financial crisis is that we don't know very much. At every stage, it has surprised. Hardly anyone saw it coming in mid-1997. Nor were its most dramatic developments, from President Suharto's downfall to Russia's debt default, widely anticipated.

So there is ample cause to be skeptical of the latest bit of conventional wisdom: that the worst is over and the world economy is on the mend. It may be true or it may be wishful thinking. We may be seeing sunrise or just a false dawn.

For believers, favorable signs abound. Last week the International Monetary Fund forecast a global recovery. In 1999, the IMF said, the world economy will grow by only 2.3 percent, but in 2000 the pace will pick up to 3.4 percent and, more important, some of the hardest-hit countries will revive.

South Korea is already recovering.

The IMF predicts that its economy will expand by 4.6 percent in 2000.

The IMF is not alone. Merrill Lynch regularly polls global money managers. The latest survey covered 293 financial institutions that handle more than \$8 trillion of investment funds.

"Economic optimism is surging," reports Merrill Lynch. In Europe, 74 percent of fund managers expect "a stronger economy a year from now."

agreement, although often chaotic, acted to prevent a simultaneous collapse of developing countries. So South Korea's recession is ending just as Brazil's is beginning. The staggered slumps have cushioned the adverse effect on the global economy. Fear has subsided.

But could the improvement be more psychological than real? The global economy is the sum of its parts. If the parts don't work well, neither will the whole. By the IMF's reckoning, the United States, the European Union and Japan account for almost half the world's economic production. For each, there is reason to worry.

The upbeat story about Europe and Asia is that they are now copying America's formula for economic success. Companies are "restructuring" and cutting costs. Profits and stock prices will improve.

These good things involve some bad things. "Restructuring" often means firing people. Who will employ the unemployed? In America, the economy created new businesses and enables successful ones to expand. Europe and Japan don't do this nearly as well. In Japan, regulations and cartels discourage new companies. In Europe, high payroll taxes and tight regulations deter hiring. Even with low interest rates, Europe and Japan might not grow strongly.

The problem in the United States is just the opposite: The economy has done so well that it may be fated to falter. Personal debt is high. The stock market may be overvalued. Strong consumer spending could weaken.

And America has most aided other countries by buying their exports. In 1998, the U.S. current account registered a deficit of \$23 billion. (Japan and the European Union ran surpluses of \$122 billion and \$78 billion.) Without rich countries buying their products, poorer countries will struggle to revive.

No one knows how all these cross-currents will play out. Economic forecasts are hedged with qualifications. Global recovery could be just around the bend, but the present reality is that most economies are getting worse, not better. Growth is slowing in Europe and China. Japan's recession is deepening. So is Latin America's.

Economics is even less a science now than a few years ago. The rising importance of global trade and finance has created new forces that constantly change and are only dimly understood.

The people trying to contain the present distress have had to improvise. It would be dramatic to declare that they have succeeded, but the truth is that we don't know. Neither do they.

— *Newsweek*.

## Start Massing Troops and Don't Deal With Milosevic

By Dusko Doder

WASHINGTON — Since the air war in Yugoslavia appears to be flagging, the United States should begin to face up to the prospect of deploying ground troops if it is to achieve its stated objectives. NATO should begin pre-positioning troops in Hungary, a new NATO member and Yugoslavia's northern neighbor, and in Albania. It needs to demonstrate that victory is the only strategy in the conflict with Slobodan Milosevic.

Pre-positioning of forces, which would take weeks, should be accompanied by several steps aimed at convincing Serbs, particularly the intellectual and political elite, of the need for political change in Belgrade.

One of those steps could be a

pause in the air campaign once the pre-positioning gets under way. So far the bombing has rallied Serbs around their leader, but there are indications, including guarded conversations with intellectuals in Belgrade, that the support is more superficial than substantial. It could well crumble once the air bombardment pauses.

Many Serbs privately regard Mr. Milosevic as Serbia's nemesis. They should be persuaded that it is in their best interest to remove him.

When he came to power in 1987, he was probably the most popular politician in Serbia's history. By 1991, he could no longer take a walk in the streets

play any role in the eventual settlement of the crisis.

Finally, the West has to reach out to the Serbs. Before the bombing started, President Bill Clinton had not made the case for it to the American people, let alone to the people on whom the bombs would fall. The NATO allies should clearly articulate that this is not a war against the Serbian nation; nor is the U.S. Air Force the air force of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

The bombing pause would alleviate the plight of the civilian population, particularly the wretched Kosovo Albanians. Missiles and bombs launched in the name of protecting them have in fact made their situation worse, quite apart from Serbian brutality. The destruction of the civilian infrastructure may be "degrading" Mr. Milosevic's military, but it is also degrading Western values. Tony Blair's spin notwithstanding, there is no such thing as bombing "with compassion."

No doubt NATO can bomb the Serbs into submission. But if deployment of ground troops is inevitable, continued bombings of civilian targets would enhance popular hostility to foreign soldiers and make their mission more dangerous over the long term. Resistance to foreign invaders is something

public opinion has not turned decisively against the West as it has in Russia and Belarus. In part this may be because the Clinton administration has recognized the geopolitical importance of Ukraine, which has been one of the largest recipients of American foreign aid.

The West should seize this moment to push Ukraine into closer contact with NATO and the European Union. Instead of threatening to strip Ukraine of its Council of Europe membership for failing to carry out political and economic reforms, the Europeans should be taking more positive steps to encourage democratization and discourage corruption.

As the situation in Yugoslavia has shown, even trouble in small states can affect Europe and Ukraine is a big state. Even worse would be if Ukraine joined a coalition of disgruntled nations working to undermine Western interests and values.

In case of increased hostilities, Ukraine's role as a buffer between Russia and NATO's Central European states would become even more crucial. Ukraine is sitting on a fence. It is up to the West whether it lands in Europe or in the Slavic brotherhood.

The writer, lecturer in history at the University of Chicago, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

## 1899: Cuban Fight

PARIS — A leading member of the Cuban independent party in Paris has addressed an open letter to the President of the United States, the tenor of which may be gathered from the following passage: "Let it be understood that just as we fought for thirty years against our mother country, so shall we fight, but this time with hatred, as desperate men, against a foreign invading people. The United States might be able to seize the Cubans' land, but it will be necessary first to exterminate the last of the Cubans!"

## 1924: Klan's War

NEW YORK — The Ku Klux Klan's nightgown brigade descended upon Long Island, "to declare war" on Governor Al Smith as candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. A fiery orator had projected himself from Atlanta, Ga., to proclaim that if "Alcohol Smith" ever sets his foot across the threshold of the White House he would have to do so over the Klan's body. The speaker was L. R. Huguet. Huguet attacked Governor Smith for his action in signing the Mullin-Cage dry law "repealer," whereby the State Prohibition Law was repealed.

## 1949: India's Status

LONDON — The eight nations of the Commonwealth issued a major declaration of policy to enable India to become a republic and still remain in the Commonwealth. The declaration marked a historic development in the unwritten but implicit "constitution" which unites the Commonwealth nations. India had pledged loyalty to

## OPINION/LETTERS

## The 'Third Way' Is Changing The Role of Government

By E.J. Dionne Jr.

**WASHINGTON** — The last thing the resolutely centrist and capitalist Democratic Leadership Council ever expected was a kind word to be said at one of its forums about socialism.

But the council, which came into being in part to wage an ideological war on its party's left wing, found itself playing host Sunday not only to President Bill Clinton, as it often does, but also to four West European leaders whose parties have socialist and social democratic roots. It was inevitable that someone would bring up the S-word.

In truth, all four leaders — Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain, Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder of Germany, Prime Minister Wim Kok of the Netherlands and Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema of Italy — represent anything but old-style state socialism. All subscribe to versions of the "Third Way" approach to politics that Mr. Blair and Mr. Clinton have been marketing and that the Democratic Leadership Council was celebrating.

Third Wayers are often defined negatively. Mr. Blair likes to say they are neither "old left" nor "new right," but a new home for those who would ally capitalist dynamism with social solidarity. "Our position is that enterprise and justice can live together," said Mr. Blair, "and that actually, in today's world, they have to."

But it fell to Mr. D'Alema to remind Mr. Clinton and the council of the perhaps awkward tradition represented on the platform. Mr. D'Alema suggested that while all five leaders shared similar reformist principles, their "big problem" concerned a single word.

"There are words that in your civilization, in your history, sound difficult to understand or to accept," he said. "For example, we belong to the Socialist International, and I'm aware that this word is somewhat sensitive here" — at this moment, the crowd cracked up in laughter — "and I can see that we have avoided pronouncing this word here. But we should prevail over this fear of words."

Mr. Clinton smiled and retorted, "I'm not sure I would have you here, Massimo. If I were running for re-election."

That little moment captured both the promise and the difficulties with the Third Way. The Third Way does, indeed, represent a convergence across a broad range of political movements, center and left, on an approach to social

*The Washington Post.*

## SURRENDER, DOROTHY

By Meg Wolitzer. 224 pages. \$22. Scribner.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

**S**ARA SWERDLOW is not the kind of person you expect to die young. She is a 30-year-old perpetual student of Japanese at Columbia University, a person who seems to have put off adulthood, even mortality, indefinitely, and she is pretty and charming to boot. But Sara dies in a tragic accident in the Hamptons. Abruptly her mother (more like an older sister than a typical mother) and the friends who shared her summer cottage find their lives thrown into gloom and despair.

"Surrender, Dorothy," Meg Wolitzer's slender new novel, tells the story of the aftermath of Sara's death. It follows the vapor trails left by the lives of Natalie Swerdlow, Sara's possessive, self-centered, divorced mother, and of Adam Langer, a playwright who was Sara's inseparable best friend and confidant. Adam's lover, Shawn Best, is also a playwright, but he is aspiring where Adam has arrived, and he is desperate for some success. Also in the picture are Maddie and Peter, a law-

yer and a high school teacher ambiguously married and the parents of a 7-month-old boy named Duncan whose behavior is roughly as mature as that of the adults who surround him and only a bit more aimless.

Wolitzer, whose previous novels include "Hidden Pictures" and "Friends for Life," is a skillful practitioner of a kind of Upper West Side literary genre: a close relative of the cinematic genre most associated with Nora Ephron and movies like "Sleepless in Seattle" and "You've Got Mail." Ephron's debut as a movie director, "This Is My Life," was based on Wolitzer's "This Is Your Life." The ingredients of the genre are a kind of wistful, Meg Ryan adorableness, a post-sexual-revolution erotic casualness, a set of comfortably familiar post-yuppie characters and a keen, campy appreciation of the artifacts of yuppie life (Starbucks, psychoanalysis and semiotics majors at Brown).

Wolitzer is a witty and likable writer with a tenderhearted, critical awareness of the lighter-than-air quality of her characters. There is an appealing delicacy to her writing and a skillful exploitation of the almost invisible neuroses of the people who pass through her pages. But her novel also incarnates the very weightlessness

it describes. It is a divertimento, not a symphony, less a satiric commentary than an artifact of the world it parodies and therefore similar to it in its adolescent "Leave It to Beaver" fecklessness.

This is a novel, after all, that uses an image from "The Wizard of Oz" as its refrain, whose characters' re-collection of summer camp make up their most vivid *memories*. The themes — jealousy, neurotic possessiveness, halfhearted infidelity, the floating menace of AIDS — make for a very contemporary broth, but it is one that stays well under the spiritual boiling point.

Sara, even in her death, is the central character of Wolitzer's story, and she is also emblematic of the charm and insouciance of her entire dramatis personae. "Sara would be loved. Sara Swerdlow would get away with it; she would float through everything she undertook, and no one would mind."

Sara was the only person in her

circle who was not jealous of Adam, who wrote a play, a light comedy about a Jewish family on Mars, that went all the way to Broadway. "Adam represented a certain mainstream brand of gay culture that was bookish and appealing and highly presentable." He and Sara were a

couple whose very lack of sexual attraction for each other made for a kind of higher intimacy, especially when compared with the passionlessness of their relations with boyfriends.

When Sara dies on her way back from a quick excursion to the Fro-Z-Cone near her group summer house, her entourage is thrown together in grief. Natalie, the mother who never quite cut the umbilical cord, had "been having sex all evening" and finds out about the tragedy only the next morning. In her shock at getting the news over her cell phone, she has a accident in a New Jersey-Manhattan tunnel; it is as if she can't get through life without doing all the things her daughter has done.

Natalie drives to Long Island and shows up at the disheveled summer rental where the rest of Wolitzer's story unfolds. Sara's friends have not been in car accidents of their own, but they have been living "like squatters in the darkness of a tunnel." With Natalie's arrival, they are shaken out of their torpor just enough to begin to live out the conflicts that Sara's disappearance brings to the surface.

Shawn desperately tries to exploit his relationship with Adam to advance his cause as a playwright. Happier and poor and too terrified to get

tested for HIV (even though five of his former lovers have died of AIDS), he is taken in hand by Natalie, who is glad for the opportunity to be somebody's mother. Maddie, already alienated from Peter, finds her annoyance with him intensifying. She had told Sara the basic problem: "He's male. And therefore, I don't think he understands women."

Meanwhile, Adam misses Sara and his second play is going badly. The residents of the summer house begin to quarrel, not exactly in the searing fashion of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" but with a certain restrained testiness all the same.

"There was a geometry of bad feelings in the air — none of it referred to directly." But it is here also that Wolitzer's story takes on the spiritually undernourished quality of the world it evokes. "Surrender, Dorothy" retains its lean-cuisine charm right to the end, and it proffers a degree of resolution for each of the characters who have suffered in the wake of Sara's demise. Life drifts on, in other words, and so does Wolitzer's book, wry and hip and well endowed with witty lines but always just a bit too cute, self-consciously inoffensive, like the lightweight confection that it is.

*New York Times*, Service

## CHILDREN AND GUNS

What can we Americans do to ensure that our schools are safe? At the very least, we ought to be able to summon the political will to make guns inaccessible.

If we cannot change our gun laws to reflect the reality of our times, we will experience tragedies such as the one in Littleton, Colorado, again and again. And we will continue to lose moral authority in the eyes of the rest of the world.

EMILY BERNHARD HEYSEN.

Munich.

I live thousands of miles from even the possibility of such a horrific event, yet as an American, I feel pain both for those who have lost their children and those who will forever live in fear.

I am also sad for myself. The glimmer of hope that one day my family could return to the United States has faded. How could I possibly bring my children to a country that invites such violence?

The "right to bear arms" was never intended for today's America. Americans are now a stressed, pressed and unpredictable people who cannot be trusted with open access to guns. Special

interest groups must no longer be headed by politicians seeking campaign contributions; their money must cease to be a reason for inaction.

EILEEN SCHLUTER.

Nice.

Whether violent films that seem to glorify immorality are helping to cause the disintegration of American civil society, or merely reflecting it, is secondary. Of primary importance is that America appears to be morally adrift, making it difficult to assert leadership over other countries that may not have stellar econ-

omies or cruise missiles, but where people would be incredulous at the idea of metal detectors in their children's schools.

NICHOLAS D. RAY.

Le Meilleur le Roi, France.

We Americans live in a society where all is allowed as long as we apologize afterward. Our own president leads the way in setting examples of denial and then tearful penance.

Wake up, America! It is never too late for soul-searching.

TERESA DE STEFANO.

Nantes, France.

## BOOKS

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The New York Times

This is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on the list are not necessarily consecutive.

FICTION

Last Weeks

Wk. on List

1. BITTERSWEET, by Danielle Steel

2. THE GIRL WHO LOVED TOM GURDON, by Stephen Krasner

3. THE TESTAMENT, by John Grisham

4. HARRY POTTER AND THE SOUL CALIBUR, by J.K. Rowling

5. VICTORIO THE VAMPIRE, by Anne Rice

6. TARA ROAD, by Maeve Binchy

7. WHAT'S HEAVEN?, by Maria Shriver

8. A NEW SONG, by Jan Karon

9. THREE WED, by Amanda Quick

10. ABIDE WITH ME, by Lynn Hulse

11. SINGLE &amp; SINGLE, by Linda LeCarre

12. THE WISDOM BIBLE, by Barbara Kingsolver

13. RIVER'S END, by Nora Roberts

14. APOLLYON, by Tim LaHaye

15. ASHES TO ASHES, by Tam Hoag

16. ALL TOO HUMAN, by George Stephanopoulos

17. THE GREATEST GENERATION, by Tom Brokaw

18. YESTERDAY, I CRIED, by Janis Ian

19. 72 HOURS, WITH MORRIE, by Mitch Albom

20. BUSINESS @ THE SPEED OF THOUGHT, by Bill Gates with Collins Hemingway

21. 60 YEARS, by Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster

22. BELLA TUSCANI, by Pauline Maier

23. THE ART OF HAPPINESS, by Dalai Lama and Howard C. Cutler

24. 9 MAJORS, by John Feinstein

25. TRAVELING MERCIES, by Anne Lamott

26. 11 WEEKS AND CLINTON, by Michael Isikoff

27. BLACK HAWK DOWN, by Mark Bowden

28. MONICA'S STORY, by James Patterson

29. BLIND MAN'S BLUFF, by Sherry Somers and Christopher Drew with Amorette Lawrence Drew

30. REACHING TO HEAVEN, by James Van Praagh

31. ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS

32. THE COURAGE TO BE RICH, by Suze Orman

33. SUGAR BUSTERS!, by H. Leonidas Sneed et al.

34. THE ROAD TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM, by Suze Orman

35. SOMETHING MORE, by Sarah Ban Breathnach

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## AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1992

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AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that any shareholder who has not filed a claim in the liquidation is directed to submit such claim to the Official Liquidators at P.O. Box N-3231, Nassau, Bahamas or Fax (242) 326-8180 by the 19th day of May 1999. The rights and entitlement of bearer shareholders who fail to submit claims by the aforesaid date shall be extinguished and forever barred.

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## Making Bach Swing: Saga of Ward Swingle

Giving Fugues to the Man in the Street

By Mike Zwerin  
*International Herald Tribune*

**P**ARIS — When he heard the Swingle Singers, Glenn Gould, who also knew how to allow Bach to swing, said, "I felt like lying on the floor and kicking my heels, that's how good I thought they were."

People used to ask Ward Swingle if it was his real name. Swingle Singers sounds too good to be true as a name for a singing group that explored Bach's swinging side. The Swingles were praised by a mix of prominent musicians, from Yehudi Menuhin and Sviatoslav Richter to Ella Fitzgerald and Dizzy Gillespie. The composer Luciano Berio called Ward Swingle's contribution to vocal techniques "an integral part of the history of music of the last 30 years, and he is a part of my own creative development."

Now 71, Swingle, who, along with his wife, Françoise, tends his garden and walks his dog in the countryside northeast of Paris, has written a book called "Swingle Singing" (Shawnee Press). It recounts one of 20th-century popular music's most encouraging success stories. The jazz critic Leonard Feather said: "The Swingle Singers qualify as a rare illustration of popular success grounded in musical validity."

When Ward Swingle was 5 years old in Mobile, Alabama, his father sat him down at the piano and said that if he did not learn how to remember "A," he could not go to the movies on Saturday. Swingle quickly developed or discovered he already had — he is not sure which — absolute pitch. Either way, being able to pick tonality out of thin air is a blessing for a singer.

Not a musician because he had a family and there was a depression, his father was an electrical contractor who accepted musical instruments from clients who could not pay. Young Ward learned the clarinet and the oboe, and how to play Bach on the piano. He and his siblings sang like the Andrews Sisters just for the fun of it.

It was a supremely eclectic musical education. By 16, he had learned the craft of music to the point where, had he been stranded in, say, Alaska, Swingle could have gotten a job playing piano in a bar, or accompanying a singer or singing himself. As it was, he went to Paris on a Fulbright grant to study with the famed concert pianist Walter Gieseking, whose conception of Bach's tempi, among other insights, opened up

his ears. One passage from a partita sounded to him like Lee Konitz.

To earn a living he sang in the studios. There were many good studio singers in Paris in the late '50s and early '60s. Mostly they were limited to singing "oooh" and "ah" behind such big names as Charles Aznavour and Edith Piaf. It was a good living, there was work, they were busy: Swingle rented a Le Corbusier house in the suburb of Arcueil. At the same time, the songwriter Michel Legrand and future super-producer Quincy Jones were both just getting started as arranger-composers. They were writing adventurous parts for singers.

Everybody was all fired up with possibilities of things to do with the voice. It was some sort of vocal renaissance, partly inspired by the success of Lambert, Hendricks & Ross. The American singer in Paris Blossom Dearie formed the Blue Stars. Her group was followed by the Double Six. Swingle was a member of both, and co-founder of the latter.

The Double Six lyricist Mimi Perrin wrote words to music by Jones, Gerry Mulligan and others. One story was about a man who could not get out of bed, set to Jones's arrangement of Horace Silver's "Doodlin'." "She made the French language swing, something that had not really been done before. But French does not travel well."

The Double Six was a highly respected vocal group many people heard of but few actually heard, and even fewer understood. They overdubbed themselves in the studio, doubling the number of voices — thus the name — a powerful sound. But it was terribly awkward for them to adapt to live situations, and taken together with the language problem, they were not an ideal touring group. Legrand moved to Hollywood to write film scores, vocal harmonies were kind of dumb. Basically, we were just bored. We had nothing to sing. I had this classical training and so I got out 'The Well-Tempered Clavier' and I said let's see if we can't sing these things. As many people have before, we discovered that Bach swang. We couldn't help but swing, it was spontaneous."

Swing was inherent, they were not "jazzing" it up. They added accompaniment by a walking bass and brushes on a snare drum. They were willing to work in their free time, and, says Swingle: "We insisted on getting things right without worrying about quick financial rewards." Two out of the eight singers were American. The French singers included Perrin, Legrand's sister Christiane, and Eddy Louiss, later the keyboardist with an historic organ trio including Jimmy Gourie and Kenny Clarke.

To help move the polyphony along,



Swingle has written a book about a life focused on popularizing classics.

they sang with modified scat syllables such as "la," "doo" and "bah." "Do, re, mi" sounded too academic. Commercially, they had small expectations. Swingle thought that customers would be pretty much limited to family, friends and a few friendly musicians. He had not expected Bach to have such a wide appeal. It amazed him how the "man in the street" was able to walk around humming the "daunting double fugue, the summit of polyphonic writing in Western music, from 'The Art of the Fugue.'"

Radio disk jockeys loved it. Cultured people were pleased that Bach's fugues were done 'all the way through from beginning to end. The repertoire was later expanded to include Mozart, Vivaldi, Berio and Vaughan Williams. (Formed in 1973, the English successor to the original French Swingle Singers, Ward Swingle arranger and musical adviser, is still active today.)

All disciplined studio musicians, the Swingles learned how to get on and off stage gracefully, they bowed in unison, wore costumes by Pierre Balmain, Pierre Cardin and Yves Saint Laurent. They were escorted to limousines, they checked into five-star hotels, met famous people. Lady Bird Johnson invited them to perform in the White House in honor of the Israeli foreign minister, Levi Eshkol.

"They were heady times," Swingle recalls. "It was a fairy tale."

## Young Pianist Conquers Moscow

By George W. Loomis

**M**OSCOW — A young musician has won the hearts of Muscovites. The British pianist Freddy Kempf came to prominence here last summer at the International Tchaikovsky Competition, perhaps the world's best known musical tournament and surely one of the most grueling.

From all accounts, the 21-year-old was the odds-on favorite of the audience, but he placed only third. Soon the competition was awash with charges of Russian bias on the part of the jury and other angry accusations.

That all seemed like ancient history on Sunday night when Kempf, as a full-fledged artist, gave his first solo recital in the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory.

One was reminded that competitions achieve their best results when they simply bring a vital artistic personality before the public. And whatever its faults, last summer's competition accomplished this much. Tickets for the recital were gone almost immediately. A concert appearance a few days before sold out as well, with an orchestra that probably couldn't have sold half the seats on its own.

Kempf is now the toast of Moscow, and the parallel to Van Cliburn, who won the Tchaikovsky in 1958, is hard to overlook.

His competition videos, as well as an incandescent performance of the Schumann Piano Concerto with the Moscow Symphony last September, are regularly aired on the city's cultural television channel. And it is doubtful that even Cliburn won a comparable following among the city's young women, who bestow flowers on Kempf in the time-honored Russian fashion for artistic idols, then, less conventionally, converge on his dressing room as if he were a rock star.

They are captivated by distinctive looks traceable to a Japanese mother and a German father, an unassuming informality of dress (black turtle-neck beneath a dinner jacket), and a willowy, almost fragile presence that is hard to reconcile with his fearsome displays of technique. (It turns out he is already married — to a pianist from Moscow, no less.)

Lest there be any mistake, Kempf's artistry is the real thing.

He is clearly in another league from the many gifted young pianists who routinely emerge on the scene. Schumann's "Carnaval," Opus 9, was full of vivid, imaginative touches, brightly impetuous in the outgoing portions but especially rich in evoking the dreamy, "Eusebius" side of Schumann's personality.

Here the languid melodies were shaped with unfailing poetry, as repeats served to reveal new levels of expression or test the melodic potential of inner voices. His exquisite playing in the haunting slow movement of Mozart's Concerto in A, K. 488, in the earlier concert was the product of a similar temperament.

Kempf's gift for lyricism almost made you forget that Beethoven's Sonata in E Major, Opus 109, is a late work, with the implication for probing interpretation.

His slightly brisk, almost matter-of-fact statement of the theme of the third movement's sublime variations aroused concern, but what followed spoke with an eloquence that duly reflected the import of the music.

His account of Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Sonata, Opus 36, proved to be an event of almost seismic proportions. The first few measures take the pianist all over the keyboard, and there is little respite thereafter. At one point the piano sounded as if transformed into a giant carillon pealing forth huge, descending clusters of sound.

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**Herald Tribune**  
**BUSINESS/FINANCE**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1999

PAGE 13

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## AT&T Forges Japanese Deal as Profit Rises

Compiled by Our Staff From Des派ches

**NEW YORK** — AT&T Corp. reported Tuesday that its first-quarter profit rose 39 percent, excluding one-time charges, exceeding Wall Street forecasts as revenue from cellular-phone, corporate-phone and other services more than offset a further decline in its flagship long-distance business.

AT&T also announced a partnership with Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp., the dominant Japanese telephone company, to manage communications networks for multinational companies.

AT&T's profit of \$1.72 billion, or 61 cents a share, reflected the company's acquisition of the cable-television company Tele-Communications Inc., which was completed March 9. In the year-earlier quarter, AT&T made \$1.24 billion, or 46 cents a share.

AT&T's revenue rose 9.9 percent, to \$14.10 billion from \$12.83 billion. Including one-time items, its net income

fell to \$1.1 billion, compared with \$1.3 billion a year earlier. Analysts surveyed by First Call had expected AT&T to earn 57 cents a share in the three months that ended March 31.

The company was buoyed by big revenue increases. AT&T said sales from its cellular-phone service grew 40 percent, its telecommunications-management business grew 69 percent, and its corporate phone services grew 7.5 percent.

The increases in revenue more than offset a 3.4 percent drop in sales from the company's consumer long-distance services. AT&T's biggest business has suffered from a long-term decline amid competition from numerous rivals.

The one-time charges excluded in the results Tuesday are tied to AT&T's purchase of Tele-Communications and other deals. AT&T also benefited from lower costs resulting from a reduction of 18,000 jobs last year and lower network connection costs.

The results come after a spree of acquisitions and other deals led by the chairman of AT&T, Michael Armstrong, as he reshapes the largest U.S. long-distance company into a diversified telecommunications conglomerate.

NTT and AT&T said they had reached a basic agreement on the alliance and would continue negotiating its details, including cooperation in Japan and the rest of Asia. Mr. Armstrong said via a satellite link that the collaboration with NTT showed AT&T's dedication to meeting customer need for managed services in Japan and around the world.

The alliance gives NTT, whose focus has been on its domestic market, access to IBM's global communications network, which AT&T agreed in December to buy for \$5 billion by late June.

The alliance represents NTT's first major deal with a foreign company since a change in Japanese law permitted NTT to offer its services globally.

The two companies will also see whether they can expand joint operations to the rest of Asia to provide comprehensive services for designing, deploying and managing corporate data-communications networks.

The move is AT&T's second major step in a week to expand its international business with the help of a Japanese partner. The company said this week that it would join British Telecommunications PLC in buying a combined 30 percent stake in Japan Telecom Co., a long-distance and international carrier.

In addition, AT&T offered \$58 billion last week to buy MediaOne, the fourth-largest U.S. cable-television operator, to try to thwart the merger accord reached last month between MediaOne and the No. 3 cable company, Comcast.

Last month, AT&T agreed to merge its Canadian operations with MetroNet Communications Corp. of Canada.

(AP, AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

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Junichiro Miyazu, left, the president of NTT, shaking hands with the AT&T vice president Scott Perry as the deal was announced Tuesday.

## Seoul Tries to Dispel Fears On Korea First Bank Sale

By Don Kirk  
*International Herald Tribune*

### Kenneth Irvine Chenault

Born June 2, 1951, Mineola, New York.

Education B.A., Bowdoin College, 1973; J.D., Harvard Law School, 1976.

Career Highlights Lawyer, Rogers & Wells, 1977-79; management consultant, Bain & Co., 1979-81; various executive positions, American Express, 1981-1997; president and chief operating officer, American Express, 1997-present.

Family Kathryn, wife; Kenneth Jr., son; Kevin, son, 7.

Hobbies Golfing, swimming, skiing, playing tennis, reading biographies.

Photo AP

Newbridge was the first foreign company to agree in principle to take over a South Korean bank. Under a memorandum of understanding, Newbridge agreed to purchase 51 percent of the bank's equity, reportedly for \$600 million.

Since then, Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp. has agreed to pay \$900 million for Seoul Bank, another troubled entity largely owned by the government, and Goldman, Sachs & Co. has agreed to invest \$500 million in Kookmin Bank.

The negotiations for Korea First Bank are believed to be considerably more complicated than the others. Newbridge was reported to have found that the bank's debts were higher than first believed.

Weijian Shan, a managing director at Newbridge, called a press conference Tuesday to buck up confidence in the agreement. He said the deal would be a "perfect marriage between the Korean government and Newbridge" and would be "food for all stakeholders."

He sought to convince skeptics that Newbridge was not about to pull out, but he did admit that the deadline Friday might pass without a final agreement.

See BUYSOUTS, Page 14

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Page 10

**U.S. Beef**

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Pages 6-7.  
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[www.hbt.com](http://www.hbt.com)

## Milestone for Chenault

### Black Executive to Head American Express

By Timothy L. O'Brien  
*New York Times Service*

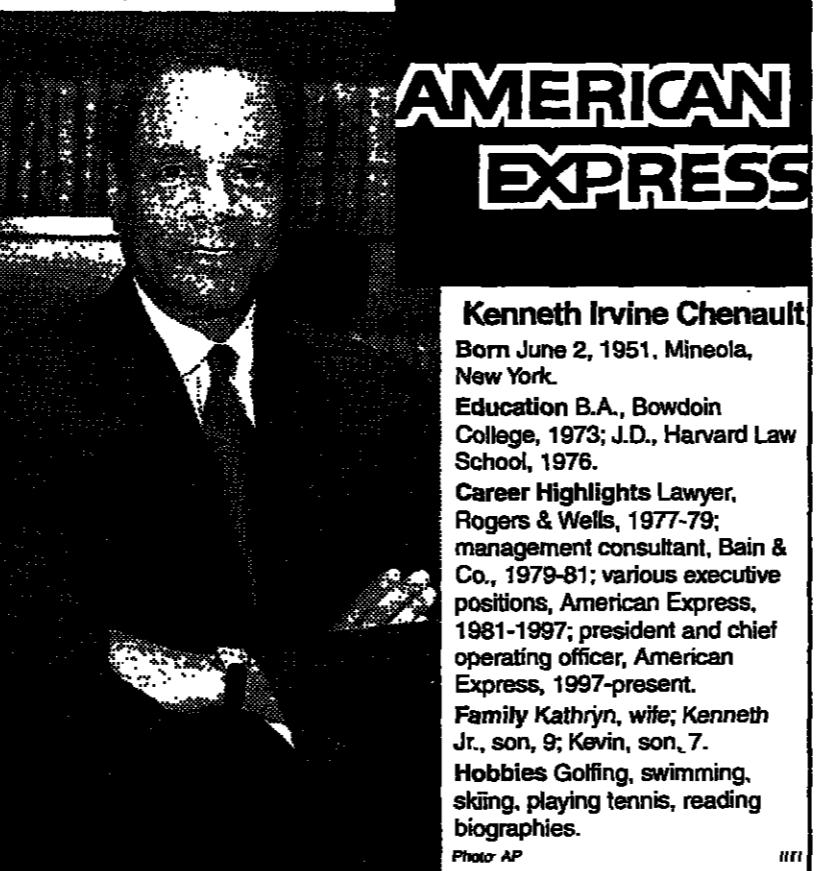
**NEW YORK** — With the announcement by American Express Co. that Kenneth Chenault would succeed Harvey Golub as chief executive in 2001, a black executive is poised to join the ranks of top U.S. corporate leaders.

If no other black executives secure a chief executive's chair before then, Mr. Chenault will become the second black leader of a Fortune 500 company, after Franklin Raines, the head of the mortgage-financing giant Fannie Mae. Mr. Chenault, 47, the company's president and chief operating officer, has a reputation as a savvy marketer and a determined revenue-builder.

The announcement Monday came as no surprise, but the timing was unexpected. Mr. Chenault was designated as Mr. Golub's successor two years ago, but Mr. Golub said at the time that he intended to stay until 2004.

Mr. Golub, 60, said Monday he would cede the chief executive post to Mr. Chenault earlier, in April 2001, to ensure an orderly succession.

Mr. Golub said he would stay on as



## Time Warner Wraps Up Pathfinder

*Pioneering but Unyieldy Web Site to Be Replaced by Updated 'Hubs'*

By Alex Kuczynski  
*New York Times Service*

**N**EW YORK — Time Warner Inc. will shut down Pathfinder, its pioneering outpost in cyberspace — a move that symbolizes a passage from the early experimental era of the World Wide Web to a mature publishing platform.

During the last five years, the company's Time Inc. unit has lumped together all of its magazines, including Time, Fortune, Money and Entertainment Weekly, in Pathfinder, a single, massive Web site.

The site will be phased out over the next six months, to be replaced by so-called hub sites that combine related magazines, features and links with the Web sites of other Time Warner properties like CNN, CNNfn and other information and entertainment units.

Each new hub will go after a more precisely targeted audience. The magazines will retain their individual home pages.

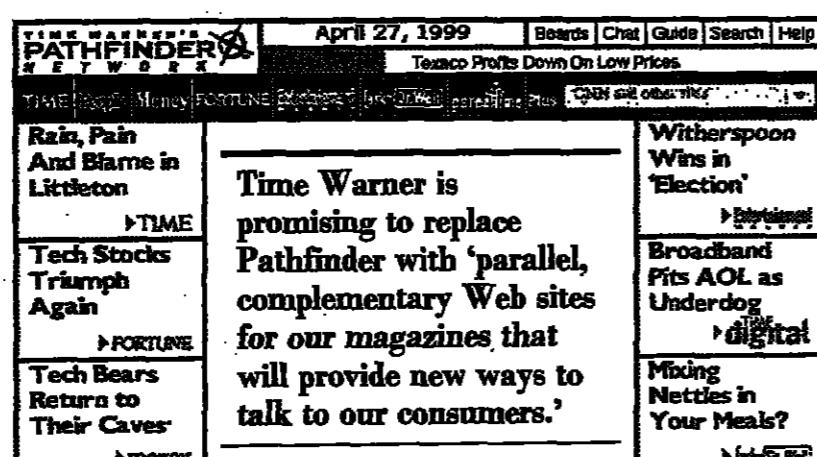
Jeffrey Coomes, vice president of marketing at Time Inc. New Media, said the decision to dismantle Pathfinder was based on the fact that most consumers go directly to the individual magazine sites and skip the Pathfinder home page.

He said the move was part of a long-term strategy already in place. "Now we're working on promoting individual brands, like Time.com and Fortune.com, and their features and functions," Mr. Coomes said.

But the move, first reported Monday on CNET's News.com Web site, comes late, industry analysts said. Lisa Allen, a senior analyst at Forrester Research, a market research firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said that Pathfinder's demise was about two years overdue.

"It's about time," Ms. Allen said.

The success of a site like Pathfinder is about creating a specific on-line en-



wonderful consumer brands like Time magazine and Fortune magazine under the URL Pathfinder," he said, referring to the Web address, [pathfinder.com](http://pathfinder.com). "That was a terrible mistake, because people had to learn what Pathfinder was."

The bright side, Mr. Mooradian said, was that the demise of Pathfinder "is paving the path for much more editorial control and the empowerment of individual properties."

One way in which individual empowerment may come about is through electronic commerce. Most of the success on the Web is attributed to sites that offer a combination of content and commerce — for example, when a user can read about the new CD by the pop singer Britney Spears on the Teen People Web site, then click on a picture of the album cover and purchase it.

To that end, Time Warner announced in January the formation of Time Warner E-Commerce to consolidate the company's direct-marketing efforts on the Web and introduce other programs.

## CURRENCY RATES

April 27 Other Dollar Values April 27

	S	E	SF	Yen	CS	Dane	Greek	Swede	Peru										
London (a)	1.6163	—	2.4366	194.24	2.391	11.28	49.925	12.5046	226.04	1.2002	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222
New York (b)	—	1.6183	—	1.5077	120.335	1.6807	7.0003	304.97	8.2792	1.2002	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222	2.0222
Tokyo	119.45	192.46	79.13	—	80.93	17.04	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222
Toronto	1.4793	2.395	0.9813	1.2297	—	0.2123	4.059	0.1775	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222
Zurich	1.5085	2.4378	—	1.2548	1.0198	21.602	1.8004	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222
One euro	1.043	0.6587	1.6047	127.34	1.5744	7.4346	325.70	8.903	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222
One SDR	1.3526	0.8388	2.0443	166.739	2.012	9.4726	416.324	11.343	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222	1.0222

Interbank rates excluding commissions.  
a To buy one pound. b To buy one dollar. c Per 100 N.I. not quoted. N.A. not available.

SDR Special drawing rights of the IMF.

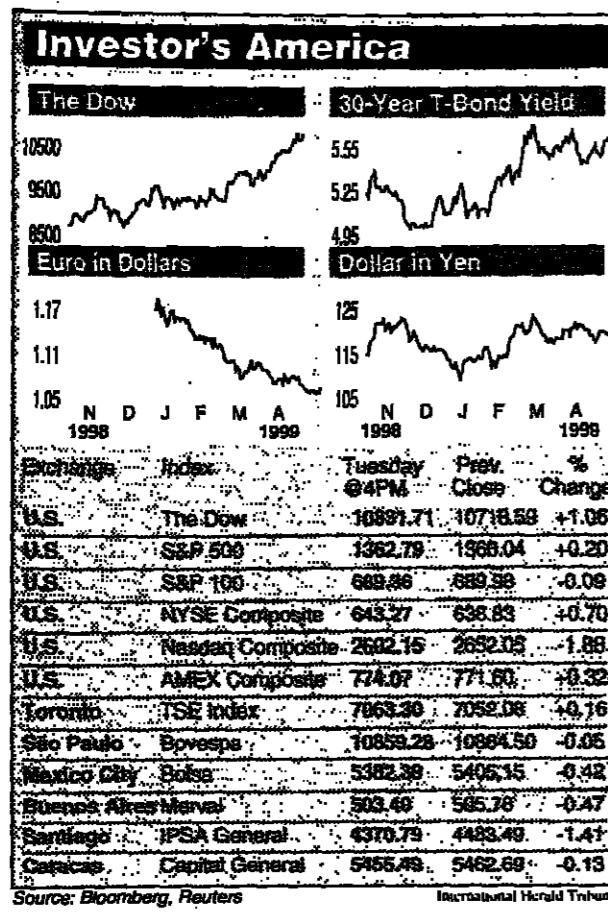
Source: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto); Banque de

France (Paris); HAF (Zurich). Other data from Reuters.

Average rates for the EMU member currencies, for one euro.

Austrian schilling 12.7603 Irish punt 787.564

Belgian franc 40.3899 Newt. cedille 2.2037



## Dollar Rises Amid Doubt Over Japan

Bloomberg News

**NEW YORK** — The dollar rose against the yen Tuesday on speculation that Japan would not spend more to help lift its economy from the worst recession in 50 years.

Tim Fox, the chief economist and currency strategist at Standard Chartered Bank, said, "Japan's economy isn't going to

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

recover as fast as people had hoped, and that hurts the yen." The dollar rose to 120.335 yen in 4 P.M. trading from 119.270 yen late Monday in New York, its biggest gain in a week.

The euro rose to \$1.0665 from \$1.0585 after two European Central Bank council members said they did not want to see further weakness in the euro, which has fallen 9 percent since Jan. 1. The Bundesbank president, Hans Tietmeyer, said the euro's long-term potential should not be underestimated. Another ECB member, Antonio Fazio, said the central bank had "no problems with the present level of the euro."

In other trading, the dollar was at 1.5077 Swiss francs, down from 1.5135 francs. The pound was at \$1.6183, up from \$1.6120.

### GROWTH: U.S. Warns Europe and Japan That It Can't Fuel World Growth Indefinitely on Its Own

Continued from Page 1

he said, "and certainly not politically."

Mr. Rubin's remarks came amid gloomy news from Germany, Europe's biggest economy. Six leading economic research institutes cut their growth forecast for 1999, blaming a decline in exports to Russia, Asia and Latin America. (Page 15)

The U.S. Treasury secretary reiterated his position Tuesday in a speech to the International Monetary Fund's interim committee, saying that the "balance of risks for the global economy remained on the downside" and calling for decisive action to promote growth.

This is not indefinitely sustainable economically,"

he said, "and certainly not politically."

Mr. Rubin's remarks came amid gloomy news from Germany, Europe's biggest economy. Six leading economic research institutes cut their growth forecast for 1999, blaming a decline in exports to Russia, Asia and Latin America. (Page 15)

The U.S. Treasury secretary reiterated his position Tuesday in a speech to the International Monetary Fund's interim committee, saying that the "balance of risks for the global economy remained on the downside" and calling for decisive action to promote growth.

Mr. Miyazawa hit back at

the United States and Europe on Tuesday, telling the IMF meeting that the U.S. economy was in danger of overheating and the new European currency, the euro, had yet to prove itself.

The U.S. authorities are "expected to maintain prudent and appropriate policy management," Mr. Miyazawa was quoted by Agence France-Presse as saying, while in Europe, "the stability of the new system and its contribution to the European economy are still to be tested."

Echoing criticism often leveled at Japan, he suggested the real test should come when the European economy

slowed down and Europe was forced to make reforms to correct structural problems.

Mr. Rubin referred Monday to the divergence between Japan and the United States as a "slight difference of emphasis." But it was a difference that had been kept well below the surface.

Throughout 1997 and the first half of 1998, Mr. Rubin rarely missed an opportunity to criticize Japan's slowness to react to its economic troubles. But after the Japanese protested that he was undercutting confidence, Mr. Rubin muted those comments and often praised Mr. Obuchi for pushing through bailouts of Japan's private banks.

But the fear now is that Japan is not ready with a second phase of measures if the first run out of steam. That is exactly what happened three years ago, when Japan briefly showed signs of recovery only to fall into its deepest recession since the end of World War II. Japan, though, was hardly the only shrinking economy that commanded the group's attention.

The managing director of the International Monetary Fund, Michel Camdessus, said the global economy had suffered "important setbacks" and faced considerable "downside" risks despite some major positive developments.

Although the IMF staff expects world growth to accelerate to 3.5 percent next year, Mr. Camdessus said, "it is the view of the staff and of the executive board — a view that I share — that the balance of risks remains on the downside."

Mr. Camdessus, in remarks prepared for a meeting of the IMF interim committee, cited continuing difficulties in Brazil and Russia and the conflict in Yugoslavia among current setbacks.

The global slowdown, Mr. Camdessus said, "continues to have adverse effects on many countries in Africa, the Middle East and other regions through lower commodity prices and export earnings."

Among industrial countries, he said, "a disappointing development has been the further deepening of the recession in Japan."

## BUYOUTS: Bank Sale Sought

Continued from Page 13

"The timetable could be extended," he said, even though "both sides remain confident that the deal will be closed within the time schedule."

The government also appeared eager to counter any impression the deal was off. "We're working hard toward completing the deal," the Financial Supervisory Commission said.

The sale of Korea First Bank and Seoul Bank has assumed an importance here almost equal to the restructuring of the major *chaebol*, or conglomerates. The government took over both banks to prevent them from failing as a result of billions of dollars of loans to companies that could not repay them.

### ■ Chaebol Warned

South Korea delivered its strongest warning yet to the leading industrial *chaebol*, telling them to meet monthly reform targets that had been presented to state-controlled creditors or face stiff new financial sanctions. Bloomberg News reported.

## INTEREST RATES

Tuesday, April 27

### Government Debt

	3-month	4-month	1-year	2-year	5-year	10-year
Britain	4.92	—	5.04	4.73	4.57	
France	2.44	—	2.41	2.76	3.16	3.93
Germany	2.97	—	2.95	2.76	3.01	3.84
Japan	2.23	—	2.15	2.29	2.75	3.40
Spain	4.06	—	4.07	4.14	4.52	4.97
United States	3-month	4-month	1-year	2-year	5-year	10-year
Yield	4.27	4.49	5.10	5.22	5.54	5.73
Price	95.27	95.49	96.24	96.45	97.02	97.23

Source: Bloomberg

### Money Market Rates

United States	Today	Prev.	Britain	Today	Prev.
Discount rate	4.0%	4.0%	Bank rate	5.0%	5.0%
Prive rate	7.74	7.74	Call money	5.5%	5.5%
1-month interbank	4.7%	4.7%	1-month	5.0%	5.0%
3-month interbank	5.5%	5.5%	3-month	5.5%	5.5%
5-month interbank	5.5%	5.5%	5-month	5.5%	5.5%

Source: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Reuters.

### Liber Rates

	1-3	3-6	6-12	12-36
Dollar	4.9077	4.9963	5.04	5.2075
Euro	2.5714	2.5875	2.6053	2.6245
Yen	2.52	2.57	2.61	2.64
Swiss	0.9823	0.9745	0.9711	0.9715

Source: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Reuters.

### Forward Rates

	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day
Pound Sterling	1.6132	1.6116	1.6105	1.6105
Canadian dollar	1.4821	1.4824	1.4825	1.4825
Yen	1.0205	1.0205	1.0205	1.0205
Swiss	1.0261	1.0261	1.0261	1.0261

Source: Associated Press.

### Gold Fixings

	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day
Pound Sterling	1.6132	1.6116	1.6105	1.6105
Canadian dollar	1.4821	1.4824	1.4825	1.4825
Yen	1.0205	1.0205	1.0205	1.0205
Swiss	1.0261	1.0261	1.0261	1.0261

Source: Associated Press.

### Interest Rates

Source: Bloomberg

## Stocks Mixed, but Blue Chips Push to Record

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**NEW YORK** — Stocks were mixed Tuesday, with the Dow Jones industrials average ending at a record on strong earnings reports, but profit-taking in technology stocks sent the Nasdaq composite index lower after its record run Monday.

The Dow's gains were led by Alcoa and other companies that depend most on a growing economy as investors apparently bought stocks they considered inexpensive relative to their profit outlooks.

"People are rotating to something they can touch, feel and smell," said Scotty George, chairman of Corinthian Partners Asset Management LLC. So-called cyclical stocks "are where the action is," he said, because of their lower valuations, relative to computer stocks.

The Dow industrials was up 113.12 points at 10,831.71.

The Nasdaq fell 49.90 to 2,602.15. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 2.75 points at 1,362.79.

Seventeen stocks rose for every 13 that fell on the New York Stock Exchange.

The mood on Wall Street was helped by a report from the Conference Board that its index of consumer confidence rose for the sixth straight month in April, to 134.9, from a revised 134 in March. The index is considered a key indicator of future economic activity.

In another sign of economic strength, the National Association of Realtors reported that sales

### U.S. STOCKS

of existing single-family homes rose to a record in March at an annual rate of 5.05 million units, up from 5.02 million in February. Bond prices



**Tuesday's 4 P.M.**  
The 1,000 most traded National Market securities  
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
The Associated Press.

	12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	10/98 High	Low	12 Month Low/Lated Close
1	230.84	155.45	ABX	0.00	15	217.00	155.45	155.45
2	210.00	130.00	ABE	0.00	15	180.00	130.00	130.00
3	190.00	120.00	ABE	0.00	15	180.00	120.00	120.00
4	180.00	110.00	ABE	0.00	15	180.00	110.00	110.00
5	170.00	100.00	ABE	0.00	15	170.00	100.00	100.00
6	160.00	90.00	ABE	0.00	15	160.00	90.00	90.00
7	150.00	80.00	ABE	0.00	15	150.00	80.00	80.00
8	140.00	70.00	ABE	0.00	15	140.00	70.00	70.00
9	130.00	60.00	ABE	0.00	15	130.00	60.00	60.00
10	120.00	50.00	ABE	0.00	15	120.00	50.00	50.00
11	110.00	40.00	ABE	0.00	15	110.00	40.00	40.00
12	100.00	30.00	ABE	0.00	15	100.00	30.00	30.00
13	90.00	20.00	ABE	0.00	15	90.00	20.00	20.00
14	80.00	15.00	ABE	0.00	15	80.00	15.00	15.00
15	70.00	10.00	ABE	0.00	15	70.00	10.00	10.00
16	60.00	5.00	ABE	0.00	15	60.00	5.00	5.00
17	50.00	4.00	ABE	0.00	15	50.00	4.00	4.00
18	40.00	3.00	ABE	0.00	15	40.00	3.00	3.00
19	30.00	2.00	ABE	0.00	15	30.00	2.00	2.00
20	20.00	1.00	ABE	0.00	15	20.00	1.00	1.00
21	10.00	0.50	ABE	0.00	15	10.00	0.50	0.50
22	5.00	0.25	ABE	0.00	15	5.00	0.25	0.25
23	4.00	0.20	ABE	0.00	15	4.00	0.20	0.20
24	3.00	0.15	ABE	0.00	15	3.00	0.15	0.15
25	2.00	0.10	ABE	0.00	15	2.00	0.10	0.10
26	1.00	0.05	ABE	0.00	15	1.00	0.05	0.05
27	0.50	0.025	ABE	0.00	15	0.50	0.025	0.025
28	0.25	0.0125	ABE	0.00	15	0.25	0.0125	0.0125
29	0.125	0.00625	ABE	0.00	15	0.125	0.00625	0.00625
30	0.0625	0.003125	ABE	0.00	15	0.0625	0.003125	0.003125
31	0.03125	0.0015625	ABE	0.00	15	0.03125	0.0015625	0.0015625
32	0.015625	0.00078125	ABE	0.00	15	0.015625	0.00078125	0.00078125
33	0.0078125	0.000390625	ABE	0.00	15	0.0078125	0.000390625	0.000390625
34	0.00390625	0.0001953125	ABE	0.00	15	0.00390625	0.0001953125	0.0001953125
35	0.001953125	0.00009765625	ABE	0.00	15	0.001953125	0.00009765625	0.00009765625
36	0.0009765625	0.000048828125	ABE	0.00	15	0.0009765625	0.000048828125	0.000048828125
37	0.00048828125	0.0000244140625	ABE	0.00	15	0.00048828125	0.0000244140625	0.0000244140625
38	0.000244140625	0.00001220703125	ABE	0.00	15	0.000244140625	0.00001220703125	0.00001220703125
39	0.0001220703125	0.000006103515625	ABE	0.00	15	0.0001220703125	0.000006103515625	0.000006103515625
40	0.00006103515625	0.0000030517578125	ABE	0.00	15	0.00006103515625	0.0000030517578125	0.0000030517578125
41	0.000030517578125	0.00000152587890625	ABE	0.00	15	0.000030517578125	0.00000152587890625	0.00000152587890625
42	0.0000152587890625	0.000000762939453125	ABE	0.00	15	0.0000152587890625	0.000000762939453125	0.000000762939453125
43	0.00000762939453125	0.0000003814697265625	ABE	0.00	15	0.00000762939453125	0.0000003814697265625	0.0000003814697265625
44	0.000003814697265625	0.00000019073486328125	ABE	0.00	15	0.000003814697265625	0.00000019073486328125	0.00000019073486328125
45	0.0000019073486328125	0.000000095367431640625	ABE	0.00	15	0.0000019073486328125	0.000000095367431640625	0.000000095367431640625
46	0.00000095367431640625	0.0000000476837158203125	ABE	0.00	15	0.00000095367431640625	0.0000000476837158203125	0.0000000476837158203125
47	0.000000476837158203125	0.00000002384185791015625	ABE	0.00	15	0.000000476837158203125	0.00000002384185791015625	0.00000002384185791015625
48	0.0000002384185791015625	0.000000011920928950078125	ABE	0.00	15	0.0000002384185791015625	0.000000011920928950078125	0.000000011920928950078125
49	0.00000011920928950078125	0.0000000059604644750390625	ABE	0.00	15	0.00000011920928950078125	0.0000000059604644750390625	0.0000000059604644750390625
50	0.000000059604644750390625	0.00000000298023223751953125	ABE	0.00	15	0.000000059604644750390625	0.00000000298023223751953125	0.00000000298023223751953125
51	0.0000000298023223751953125	0.000000001490116118759765625	ABE	0.00	15	0.0000000298023223751953125	0.000000001490116118759765625	0.000000001490116118759765625
52	0.00000001490116118759765625	0.0000000007450580593798828125	ABE	0.00	15	0.00000001490116118759765625	0.0000000007450580593798828125	0.0000000007450580593798828125
53	0.000000007450580593798828125	0.00000000037252902968994140625	ABE	0.00	15	0.000000007450580593798828125	0.00000000037252902968994140625	0.00000000037252902968994140625
54	0.0000000037252902968994140625	0.000000000186264514844970703125	ABE	0.00	15	0.0000000037252902968994140625	0.000000000186264514844970703125	0.000000000186264514844970703125
55	0.00000000186264514844970703125	0.0000000000931322574222453515625	ABE	0.00	15	0.00000000186264514844970703125	0.0000000000931322574222453515625	0.0000000000931322574222453515625
56	0.000000000931322574222453515625	0.0000000000465661287111226753125	ABE	0.00	15	0.000000000931322574222453515625	0.0000000000465661287111226753125	0.0000000000465661287111226753125
57	0.000000000465661287111226753125	0.00000000002328306435556133765625	ABE	0.00	15	0.000000000465661287111226753125	0.00000000002328306435556133765625	0.00000000002328306435556133765625
58	0.0000000002328306435556133765625	0.000000000011641532177780688828125	ABE	0.00	15	0.0000000002328306435556133765625	0.000000000011641532177780688828125	0.000000000011641532177780688828125
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## ASIA/PACIFIC



## Stocks Soar In Seoul on Step Toward Labor Peace

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — Easing labor tensions drove stock prices to a 32-month high Tuesday as investors concluded that a drop in worker disruptions would allow companies to continue their restructuring efforts.

The benchmark Kospi index rose 17.68 points, or 2.3 percent, to 793.98, its highest since Sept. 12, 1996, after Seoul subway workers ended their eight-day strike. The index has risen 28 percent this month, the world's third-best performance.

An easing of labor resistance is expected to help keep South Korea on a slow, steady path toward economic improvement.

"While many see the labor problem as the 'hot issue,' this year, the real story is that economic fundamentals are improving," said Hwang Sung Taek, a fund manager at IMM Asset Management Co. in Seoul, which invests \$120 million in Korean stocks. Mr. Hwang forecast the index would rise to 1,200 by the end of the year.

Labor leaders, however, vowed to continue their fight even as thousands of Seoul subway workers returned to work after the government threatened to fire them if they stayed off the job.

The end of the subway workers' strike was another setback to union attempts to block government reform efforts that entail job cuts. It followed the collapse of a planned



Lee Kap Yong, a leader of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, left, on his phone during a rally in Seoul on Tuesday.

strike by Korea Telecom Co.'s union, which has 43,000 members.

"We really weren't prepared this time," said Yoon Young Mo, international secretary of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, which represents the telephone workers.

"It's a continuing process of educating workers, an empowering process. One action can lead to another."

The confederation is leading a campaign of rallies and wildcat strikes to try to stop mass layoffs stemming from the restructuring of South Korea's bloated and highly leveraged major corporations.

The subway strike was the opening salvo in the labor confederation's plan.

The metal workers' union, meanwhile, vowed to push onward with the battle against layoffs. Thousands of union workers at several units of Daewoo Group, including Daewoo Motor Co., said they would hold rolling strikes starting Wednesday to protest the management's plans.

It would be "a great mistake" if the government thinks the confederation's fight is over. Lee Kap Yong of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions said.

"The Seoul subway strike was a success," he said, "and workers returned to work because of the inconvenience to the public. It did not end in a failure as the government is making it out to be."

(Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters)

## Economists Cautious About Thai Recovery

### Markets Could Be Wrong on Timing

Reuters

BANGKOK — Despite upbeat signals from Thailand's financial markets, the country that was the first to be hit by the Asian crisis will not be the first to recover, economists say. The Thai economy is only just bottoming out and a turnaround may still be a long way off.

Most economists say Thailand may begin to show some positive economic growth toward the end of 1999, after contractions of 1.3 percent in 1997 and 8 percent in 1998. But gross domestic product may only stabilize at the very low levels reached last year, analysts say.

A \$3.5 billion government economic stimulus package adopted April 1 may go some way toward encouraging domestic spending, but with at least 7 percent of the Thai work force unemployed and up to a third of the rural population living in poverty, it will be a long time before consumption recovers.

Massive industrial overcapacity from Thailand's boom years in the 1980s and early 1990s means there is little scope for an increase in private investment to stimulate the economy.

Thailand's private investment index stood at just 7.2 in January, down 23 percent year-on-year, on a scale that assumes 100 is "normal." Industrial and commercial investment.

Saengchai Elkapatpanich, a senior member of the board of the Federation of Thai Industries, contends that recovery will begin in the middle of this year but says it may have to be driven by export industries as the rest of Asia recovers.

"I don't think there will be an improvement in investment for some time," he said.

No one doubts that Thailand will recover eventually, but some economists say the country may see a much flatter trough than expected and that investors looking for recovering economies should be careful to differentiate among Asian countries.

"It all depends on your timetable," said Srian Pietersz, head of research at SG Asia Credit in Bangkok.

Regarding Thailand, he said, "My money would be on a 'U'-shape, flatter bottomed recovery than a 'V'-shape we are seeing elsewhere in Asia, because I don't think we have the kind of power in investment needed to power a very sharp recovery."

No. 36,128

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AP/The Associated Press

for refugees.

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ss agency said Mr. use of his "public to the government effect of the federal Serbian leadership defeat NATO and it.

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Page 10

NDA

is Stance und Libya

Clinton has eased licy to allow food to be sold to Iran, officials said

resents a softening three countries the is long viewed as orism and export. Page 10.

1 U.S. Beef Union said Wed- uild ban U.S. beef e 15 unless Wash- e the meat had no romones. Page 11.

Page 7. Page 5.

Pages 6-7. Pages 18-19.

www.iht.com

### Very briefly:

• Sanwa Bank Ltd. predicted it would post a 470 billion yen (\$3.9 billion) group net loss for the year to March 31, while Yasuda Trust & Banking Co. said it would post a 400 billion yen loss. The banks are struggling with a loan portfolio soured by Japan's weak economy.

• Japan's automobile exports in the year to March fell 3.3 percent, to 4.5 million units, dragged down by the economic slump across Southeast Asia, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said.

• Pohang Iron & Steel Co., the world's largest steelmaker, will raise export prices to China and Southeast Asia as the region's inventories run dry.

• Japanese retail sales fell 4.3 percent in March from a year ago, marking a record 24th consecutive month of declines, the government said.

• Alwa Co.'s profit fell nearly 60 percent in the year to March 31, to 3.5 billion yen, as the strong yen dented the value of the audio equipment maker's export earnings. Sales fell 4.4 percent, to \$49.5 billion.

• Telekom Malaysia Bhd., the country's largest phone company, signed a deal with Microsoft Corp. and Hewlett-Packard Co. to help it launch a new Internet business, which it hopes will broaden its customer base.

• Dai-Ichi Hotel Ltd., a Japanese hotel operator, will close the 801-room Dai-Ichi Ginza Hotel in the upscale Ginza section of Tokyo at the end of April 2002 after the lease on the building expires.

• Australia's fishing industry will triple in the next decade as oyster, salmon and prawn farms help plug the gap between diminishing wild fish stocks and increased demand.

• P&Q Australia Ltd. is likely to pay between \$150 million and \$200 million for a 49 percent stake in a joint venture with PT Pelindo, which will operate Indonesia's second-largest container port in Surabaya.

AP/Bloomberg, AP

## Tokyo Plans a Big Cut in Bureaucracy

Bloomberg News

TOKYO — The Japanese government approved a plan Tuesday to reduce its bureaucracy by one-quarter, cutting more than 250,000 positions in the next 10 years, to not hire any new workers.

Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi's cabinet also plans to almost halve the number of ministries and agencies by January 2001, to 13 from 22 now. The cabinet of senior ministers will be reduced to 14 ministers from 18. Still, an extra three ministers can be appointed if necessary.

Under the plan, the Ministry of

Finance will be renamed the Ministry of Treasury. It will retain the authority to oversee major financial problems while sharing the supervision of the financial industry with the Financial Supervisory Agency.

Opposition parties want the ministry to be stripped of its power to supervise the financial industry, saying that it already holds too much power. The ministry also allocates the national budget, collects taxes, supervises currency policy and conducts other international financial policies.

The upswing has been bolstered by credit-rating agencies. Fitch IBCA put Thailand, along with South Korea, on "rating alert positive" Monday, recognizing that Thailand's long-term credit fundamentals are beginning to reassess themselves.

But analysts and Thai business leaders emphasize that the improvement scenario in Thailand must be regarded as long term.

"The market is pricing in a banking system that has recapitalized, that

## Slow Sales in Japan Hit Sony Music's Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Sony Music Entertainment Inc. said Tuesday its group net profit fell 12 percent, as the company's first-ever loss from its music business offset increased contributions from its PlayStation video game affiliate.

Sony Music, a subsidiary of Sony Corp., said group net profit in the year that ended March 31 fell to 31.9 billion yen (\$267.7 million) from 36.3 billion the previous year. It was the first profit decline in five years. Sales were flat at 22.6 billion yen.

Sony Music and Sony Corp. jointly own Sony Computer Entertainment Inc., which makes the popular PlayStation

console. Sony sold 21.6 million PlayStation last year, but it predicted sales would drop to 17 million this year.

"We see sales growth of PlayStation having peaked in the year just ended in Japan, but sales are still rising in Europe," the executive vice president of Sony Music, Kazutoshi Shiraishi, told a news conference.

Sony plans to introduce a new PlayStation model late this year in Japan.

Japan's largest record company posted the first parent-level operating loss since it was founded in 1968 after it failed to come up with an encore to the 1998 hit soundtrack to the movie, "Titanic."

The slump offset a 16-percent increase

in group contributions from Sony Computer Entertainment.

"Basically all of the profit is from Sony Computer," said Motoharu Sone, an analyst at Universal Securities Research Co. "Sony Music isn't making any money on its record business."

Flat sales were largely attributed to a paucity of hits by Sony Music's domestic artists. The company's roster of Japanese talent accounted for only 4 of the 28 albums that sold more than a million copies in Japan in 1998.

International sales rose, led by Mariah Carey, whose album, "The Ones," was its biggest hit.

The impact on profit was exacerbated by an increase in marketing-related expenditures that resulted from Sony Music's decision last year to adopt a strategy calling for more use of outside producers and greater focus on promoting new artists.

Some analysts said those investments were more important than the business slump this year.

"The fact that the company has re-oriented its strategy in a positive direction is more significant than this year's off performance," said Hiroyuki Shimada, an analyst at Credit Lyonnais Securities Inc.

Sony Corp., which already holds 71 percent of Sony Music's shares, will acquire the remaining 29 percent in a stock swap planned for January 1.

Sony Corp. shares closed Tuesday at 11,560 yen, up 130. (Bloomberg, AFP)

### CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- Flourishing, in Florida
- Turn red, in a way
- Pitcher's asset
- Economize on the wedding
- Breakfast that
- Common middle name
- Start of a quip
- Gobbled (up)
- Supper scrap
- Scorch
- Get a bead on
- Part 2 of the quip
- Says: "When?"

**DOWN**

- Penny-pinching
- Missing G.I.
- KLM announcement
- Part 3 of the quip
- Sweater letter?
- Part of a parachute
- Holiday song
- Spurns producer
- Shak'n' Goin' On"
- Bit of legend
- Overseer's need
- Whole —
- Shakin' Goin' On"
- Pursuers of 33-Across
- Rise induces
- Spreads, as cream cheese
- One of the Four H's
- Kid and caboose
- Milk delivery's call
- Get caught up
- Siege site, 1936
- Mark down, perhaps
- Chances upon
- Raise a stink

**33-Across**

Apple eater of note

as just jobs

as Put on one's two coats worth

as "Quieter on the —"

as Where Mimos

as violet

Groom's vow

as buzz

NYSE

## Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

(Continued)

12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	100% High	Line	Low	12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	100% High	Line	Low	12 Month High	12 Month Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	100% High	Line	Low		
10 7/8	7/8	SunGard		34	7094	345	330	250	10	Torlys	.04	54	226	193	19	191	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
12 1/2	3 1/2	Sensormatic		100	2.7	374	134	134	10	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
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46 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
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52 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
54 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
56 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
58 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
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62 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
64 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
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68 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
70 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
72 16/17	16/17	Shenkel		25	87	87	193	184	193	Torlys		55	426	221	20	19	10	111 10/12	101 10/12	TDV		65	344	125	10
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**WORLD ROUNDUP**

**Hodgson Returns As 4th Inter Coach**

**SOCCER** Inter Milan on Tuesday signed Roy Hodgson, an English coach, to direct the team for its last four matches.

Hodgson became the fourth Inter coach this season.

The club said Hodgson would keep the helm only through the end of the campaign. Inter already has signed Marcello Lippi, former coach of Juventus, for next season.

Hodgson coached Inter in 1996-97. He takes over from Luciano Castellini, a longtime No. 2 at Inter, who directed the team for three matches, drawing one and losing two. The last, a 3-1 home loss to Udinese, touched off a violent protest by fans. Ronaldo, the team's injury-troubled striker, was targeted by angry fans outside the San Siro stadium Sunday. He said fans threw a stone and a bottle at his car and at a car carrying relatives.

Ronaldo remains the highest-paid player in the world, according to a survey by France Football magazine. The Brazilian will earn about 55 million francs (\$8.7 million) this season from all sources, according to the magazine. David Beckham, a Manchester United midfielder, is second with \$4.7 million, just ahead of Zinedine Zidane, with \$4.6 million. (AP, Reuters)

**Early Exit for Kafelnikov**

**TENNIS** Yevgeni Kafelnikov, who will become the top-ranked player in the world next week, lost to Richard Fromberg in the first round of the Czech Open on Tuesday.

Fromberg beat the Australian Open champion and the top-seeded Russian 6-4, 2-6, 6-4. But Kafelnikov will still take the No. 1 spot from Pete Sampras, who is resting this week because of injury. By being unable to defend his title in Atlanta, Sampras loses 172 ranking points. Kafelnikov has lost six straight first-round matches.

Boris Becker, the sentimental favorite playing his last tournament in the city of his residence, lost to Wayne Ferreira in the opening round of the BMW Open in Munich.

The fifth-seeded South African rallied on the slow red clay Tuesday to win 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Gustavo Kuerten, the third-seeded Brazilian coming off a victory in Monte Carlo, crashed out against Vincenzo Santopadre, 6-3, 6-2.

Top-seeded Karol Kucera pulled out of the event because of inflamed tendons on his right hand. (AP)

**Moon Signs With Chiefs**

**FOOTBALL** Warren Moon, a 42-year-old quarterback who started 10 games for Seattle last season, signed a two-year contract with the Kansas City Chiefs. (AP)

**Yugoslav Team Banned**

**TABLE TENNIS** Yugoslavia has been banned from all European table tennis competitions next season because of the crisis in Kosovo, the sport's European governing body said Tuesday. (AP)

# Sound of Dutch Guns Echoes Across Soccer

## In Violent World, Sport Responsible for Fans

By Rob Hughes  
International Herald Tribune

**L**ONDON — When police guns fire on soccer fans in the heart of Europe, the sport is in serious trouble. If nothing can be done after the "celebrations" in Rotterdam that ended late Sunday with four revelers hospitalized with bullet wounds, this could become terminal trouble to the game and the hysteria it generates.

We must beware of knee-jerk conclusions. What began as a salute by 240,000 to Feyenoord's capturing the Dutch league title turned ugly on the streets of this tough industrial port. As in

### Vantage Point

Chicago a few years back when the Bulls won the National Basketball Association title and the joy was used by criminals to loot, riot and overturn cars, Rotterdam became a public battlefield.

The police, the Dutch soccer authorities, and UEFA, the governing body of European soccer, agree that this conflagration was not strictly a sporting affair. Indeed, it was decidedly unsporting, and it took place outside the stadium.

That will not spare soccer if, after the wounded bodies are healed and the smashed windows replaced, sport is deemed the catalyst to a threat to life, limb and property. There are bound to be some, even in Europe's most liberal society, who will want to shut down the game to eliminate nights like this.

Sport is a legitimate expression of freedom, a release for pent-up emotions and aggressions. But controls against the cancer of violence are imperative. The Rotterdam mayhem comes at a bad time. On May 12, the UEFA Cup final between Marseille and Parma is scheduled for Moscow, where a bomb blasted a hotel on Monday. On May 26, 30,000 supporters of Manchester United and 30,000 followers of Bayern Munich will congregate in Barcelona for the Champions Cup final. Little more than a year from now, Rotterdam will be one of the host cities for Euro 2000 — a tournament which will be shared between the Netherlands and Belgium but will import fanatics from a multitude of nations.

All these venues must be on alert. The authorities must exhaust every method of policing these intense affairs short of shooting the crowd.

"Our officers were cornered," said Ger de Jongh, a Rotterdam police spokesman. "A small group of policemen was suddenly attacked by between 75 to 150 hooligans. They were in a street with thousands of other people, but there was no way to escape. They followed the procedure laid down when police feel their lives are in danger."

Last year, Feyenoord and Ajax supporters met by arrangement for a fight that killed one of their number. And it must scare everyone who intends to be involved in Euro 2000 where, up to now, the concerns were mainly about whether Belgium could match the stadium and the organization of its richer soccer neighbors.

Barry Peper, the former mayor of Rotterdam, called for a law to allow police to

seize hooligan suspects and jail or remove them before next year's events start.

"I've never seen anything so terrible," Peper says, "when police are put under siege, and forced to take out arms it turns the world upside down." Like the cars in the old port, indeed.

But is the world not a frightening place even without soccer? In Denver, school children are shot because of their color or their sporting prowess. In the Caribbean, cricket matches are the flashpoint to riots. In France, petrol-bomb hurling teenagers run amok. In central London, a television presenter is shot dead outside her home.

The task is to separate sport from the wider endemic violence while making sure it does not relapse into the contagion of hooliganism. That disease, spreading from England, once threatened the whole habit of people letting the heightened emotions of a game carry them out of themselves.

Soccer does this better than anything. It is a pastime that lifts the soul. It transcends the staleness of working life. It holds — just — the line between acceptable tribalism and nationalism, and the ethnic hatred that has led to warfare in modern Europe.

For those reasons, and for the rather more simple one that sport is poetry in motion, the games must go on. Even the game that is about to cost Barcelona, host to millions at the 1992 Olympic Games, whatever it takes to put 1,400 police and stewards on duty to stand between the English and the Germans on May 26.

Manchester United's marvelous achievement in Turin last week makes it the first English team to reach the European Cup final since Liverpool played Juventus at Heysel Stadium in Brussels in 1985. On that night, 39 spectators, mainly Juventus supporters, died.

It is the first major soccer contest abroad between English and German sides since the 1990 World Cup in Italy. The German hooligans left their calling cards in Milan by systematically breaking windows around the Duomo.

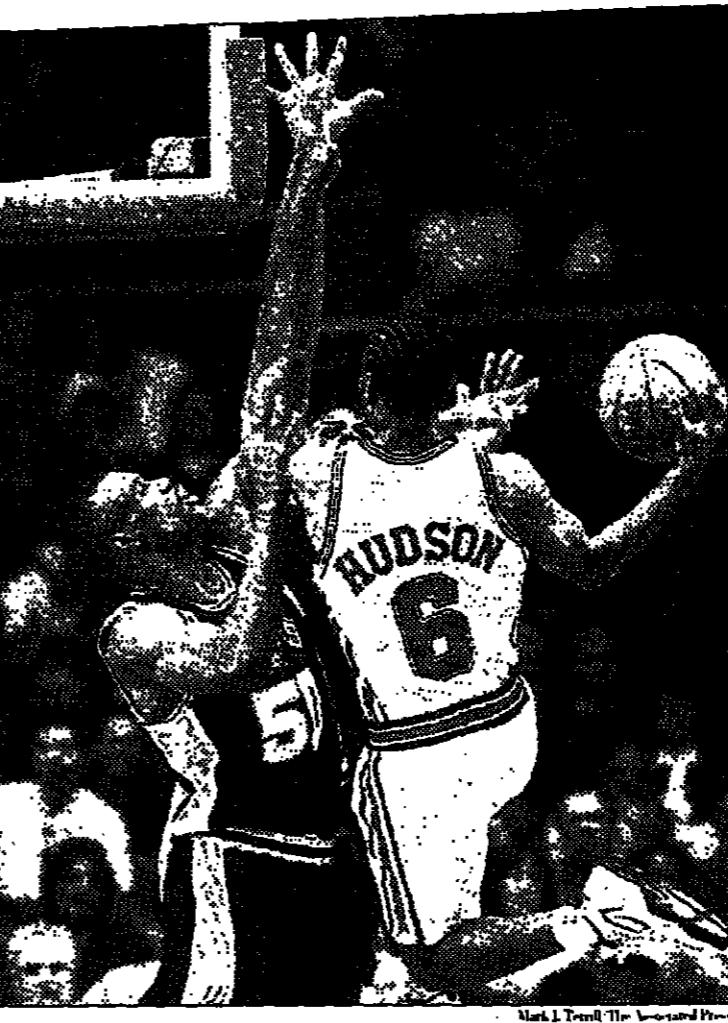
At in the last World Cup, English thugs ran riot in Marseille, and German thugs beat a policeman comatose in Lens.

Now that fate, and the stirring efforts of United and Bayern, have brought the nations together again, Barcelona must not be allowed to become a battleground. Many flights from Manchester and Munich will be diverted to regional airports, at Gerona and Reus. The stadium will be strictly segregated. The hotels will overfill because a motor show as well as Formula One Grand Prix is to be held the same week as the Championships Cup final.

Barcelona has an "antiviolence committee," in itself a sign of the times. The committee will not limit alcohol sales because, said its vice president Ignacio Ayuso: "The fans are just normal people, not delinquents." Bravo, senior. Let us pray they prove your point. Barcelona is better suited to fiesta than fear.

*Rob Hughes is chief sports writer of The Times of London.*

Blazers and Spurs Gain Ground for No. 1 Seeding



The Clippers' Troy Hudson shooting as the Spurs' David Robinson defended.

## They're Hot on Jazz's Trail

### Blazers and Spurs Gain Ground for No. 1 Seeding

The Associated Press

Portland and San Antonio both won to gain ground on the Utah Jazz in the race for the No. 1 seeding in the National Basketball Association playoffs.

Only 1½ games separate the Jazz (34-11), the Trail Blazers (33-11) and the Spurs (32-12) after Utah lost at home to Phoenix on Monday night.

Trail Blazers 93, Nuggets 77 Portland never trailed against Denver as the Trail

### NBA ROUNDUP

Blazers improved their home record to 21-2 and clinched their division title.

"It's great to be Pacific Division champions," said Mike Dunleavy, the Portland coach. "But that's just the first step. We want to win the Western Conference, too. We want the Jazz to stay through the playoffs."

Walt Williams, who didn't play the night before against Minnesota, scored a season-high 28 points for Portland. He shot 11-of-19 and had six rebounds, four assists and three blocked shots.

"That had never happened before — not playing because of a coach's decision," Williams said. "I didn't handle it well at all. It didn't feel good. I was upset. So I came out very aggressive tonight. I wasn't enjoying myself. I was just in a zone. I definitely had something to prove out there."

Suns 99, Jazz 85 The Jazz lost at home for just the third time this season.

Jason Kidd had 19 points, 12 assists and seven rebounds for the Suns, who were revved up by a series of physical confrontations with Karl Malone.

Later in the first quarter, as Malone drove to the basket, he caught Joe Kleine in the mouth and nose with an elbow. Kleine went to the hospital for 30 stitches to his lower lip and minor plastic surgery. Later, Malone and Luc Longley, who ended the Suns previous game in Utah in hospital and later accused Malone of deliberately injuring him, screamed profanities at each other and nearly came to blows.

Spurs 94, Clippers 88 "Everybody's

excited because Utah lost," said Avery Johnson, the Spurs coach after his team won in Los Angeles. "Hopefully by this weekend we'll be vying for the best record in the NBA."

San Antonio nearly blew a 33-point lead before it won its seventh in a row. Tim Duncan scored four of his 22 points in the final 2:29 after all but one point of the big lead had disappeared.

Heat 90, Cavaliers 65 Pat Riley moved into a second-place tie with Bill Fitch for career NBA coaching victories (944) as Miami cruised past the injured and overmatched Cavaliers at Cleveland.

"Let's face the facts," Riley said. "We played an incredibly depleted team. They didn't have Shawn Kemp. They didn't have Brevin Knight. They are banged up. We should have won this game and not thumb ourselves on the chest because that team is simply un-demaned."

Wizards 114, Kings 99 John Starks had a season-high 25 points and Antawn Jamison matched his season-high with 23 as Golden State beat Sacramento in Oakland, California.

Chris Webber sat out with lower back spasms and Sacramento fell into a tie for seventh place in the Western Conference with Minnesota. Seattle is a half-game behind the Kings and Timberwolves.

Knicks 91, Hornets 84 Latrell Sprewell scored 21 points and Marcus Camby added seven blocks for New York, which beat Charlotte to move 1½ games ahead of the Hornets for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Rockets 102, Lakers 80 Scottie Pippen had 26 points and six steals as Houston beat visiting Los Angeles.

The Lakers lost their third straight game to fall 1½ games behind Houston in the race for fourth place in the conference.

Bucks 99, Wizards 91 Milwaukee got 31 points from Glenn Robinson — including eight during a late 15-run as it beat visiting Washington.

Mavericks 101, Bulls 93 Michael Finley scored 28 points, including eight during a decisive 18-2 fourth-quarter run as the Mavericks beat Chicago in Dallas.

## Braves Clip Marlins, 5-3, For Payoff Of Long Trip

The Associated Press

MIAMI — The Atlanta Braves got plenty of mileage out of the second-longest trip in franchise history.

Atlanta won 8-3 on a four-city, 15-day coast-to-coast expedition and happily headed home Monday night after beating the Florida Marlins, 5-3.

"It was a great road trip," manager Bobby Cox said. "We played well in

### BASEBALL ROUNDUP

almost every game."

The trip to Philadelphia, Denver, Los Angeles and Miami included a snowout, a rainout and two off days. The only longer Atlanta trip was during the 1996 Olympics.

On Monday, the Braves scored twice in the ninth, Javy Lopez singled to lead off and advanced on a sacrifice. Jones was walked intentionally, and Lopez scored when Weiss's grounder glanced off the glove of a diving Derek Lee at first

base. Atlanta then added another run. With runners at first and third, pitcher Rudy Seanez missed the ball when he attempted squeeze-bunt, leaving Jones stranded off third. But Kevin Orie, the third baseman, made a bad throw and Jones scored on the bungled rundown.

The Braves broke a 3-3 tie in the ninth. Javy Lopez singled to lead off and advanced on a sacrifice. Jones was walked intentionally, and Lopez scored when Weiss's grounder glanced off the glove of a diving Derek Lee at first

base. Atlanta then added another run. With runners at first and third, pitcher Rudy Seanez missed the ball when he attempted squeeze-bunt, leaving Jones stranded off third. But Kevin Orie, the third baseman, made a bad throw and Jones scored on the bungled rundown.

Seanez pitched 1½ innings to complete the five-hitter. Kevin Millwood allowed four hits in 7½ innings and left with a 3-2 lead.

Astros 5, Diamondbacks 2 Jose Lima won his third straight start, and Jeff Bagwell and Richard Hidalgo drove in two runs each as Houston beat visiting Arizona.

Lima allowed both runs and seven hits in eight innings, retiring 11 of 13 in one stretch.

In American League games:

Angels 4, Blue Jays 3 Back in the lineup for a home game for the first time since opening night, Mo Vaughn went 2-for-3 and drove in two runs as the Angels beat the Blue Jays in Anaheim on Darin Erstad's 11th-inning homer.

Vaughn sprained an ankle on opening day.

Red sox 11, Indians 10 John Starks had a season-high 25 points and Antawn Jamison matched his season-high with 23 as Golden State beat Sacramento in Oakland, California.

Shannon Stewart went 4-for-5 for the Indians and Anthony Saunders went 2-for-4 with a two-run double in his major league debut.

Twins 6, Red Sox 2 Torii Hunter hit a grand slam, drove in a career-high five runs and made two key defensive plays in center field as Minnesota stopped a 16-game losing streak by beating visiting Boston.

Hunter made a home run-saving catch and a strong throw to the plate in the sixth.

His grand slam in the fourth-inning was the 12th in the major leagues this season.

Indians 5, Athletics 4 Roberto Alomar doubled with two outs in the 10th inning and scored on a single by Mammy Ramirez, as Cleveland won in Oakland. It was the Indians sixth come-from-behind victory this season.

Tigers 7, Mariners 0 Juan Encarnacion and Karim Garcia homered as Detroit won in Seattle. Detroit tied a season high with 15 hits, with Encarnacion and Dean Palmer each going 3-for-5.

## NFL Will Miss One of the Good Guys

Vantage Point/IRA BERKOW

I'm competing all the way until the scoreboard clock reads zero-zero-zero.

He returned for a fourth time to the Super Bowl, in 1998, and won it, at the tender age of 37, risking loin and limb, to scramble and dive for a crucial first down late in the 31-24 victory over highly favored Green Bay.

The Broncos' owner, Pat Bowlen, was so moved by Elway's professionalism, resilience and, well, dough, that when handed the 1998 Super Bowl trophy after the game, he said, "This one's for John."

"We hated to lose John," George Steinbrenner recalled this week.

"He was a good ballplayer and a good citizen. While he didn't have all the tools of a Derek Jeter, he had the right ethics and the right understanding, and he would have made himself a star in baseball."

Did he believe Elway made the right decision?

"Are you kidding?" Steinbrenner asked.

Yes.



John Elway has become a symbol of the athlete



## POSTCARD

## The Bard, by the Book

By Walter Goodman

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Now is the spring of content for friends of the Bard here. They can look forward to "The Taming of the Shrew" this summer in Central Park. Before that, comes a movie of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and, later this year, Julie Taymor's film version of the rarely performed "Titus Andronicus."

But it is a fair guess that at least one eminent Bardolator, Harold Bloom, is reining in his expectations for these latest attempts at casting a fresh light on the canon. His book "Shakespeare: The Invention of the Human" leaves no doubt of his irritation with most of the interpretations he has encountered in a lifetime of worshipping the plays. For him, the more daring the attempt, the more extraneous the experience.

Here and there in his 741 pages, Bloom dredges up a kind word about a legendary turn by an actor whom he has never seen — Kean or Irving as Shylock — or a production that he saw long ago; most memorably for him, the Henry plays with Ralph Richardson as Falstaff and, incidentally, Laurence Olivier alternating between Hotspur and Shallow. Bloom reports that Richardson's performance, seen at the age of 16, gave him his "first understanding of Shakespeare."

But praise is rare. Bloom does not make life easy for directors and actors who persevere to come up with novel interpretations of a much-performed repertory.

Mostly, in the Bloomsian view, directors and actors are doing very badly, out of sheer incompetence or under the influence of the hour's ideo-

logues, be they feminists or Marxists or multiculturalists.

And yet, as Bloom does not fail to note, the Shakespearean canon was made to be acted well before scholars got their hands on it. Along with playing the Ghost in "Hamlet," Shakespeare left us through the exceedingly intelligent Dane, the pitiful and most enduring stage direction in history: "Suit the action to the word, the word to the action."

Granted, that tag does not settle much, but it does suggest the differing starting places for Bloom and the interpreters he cannot abide. Like "the gender and power covens" who have tampered with his cherished heroine, Rosalind, and succeeded in making "nearly every production of 'As You Like It' a libel on 'the most remarkable and persuasive representation of a woman in all Western literature.'

That sort of failure, he maintains, is symptomatic of "the authentic decline of our cognitive and literate culture," under the assault by movies, television and computers. If, as he laments, as great a work as "King Lear" defies "a Shakespearean staging of Shakespeare," then the society is plainly losing its literary tradition and probably its bearings.

So here's the situation: Where the Bardolator dedicates himself to defending the text against the barbarians, the directors have the challenge of finding audience-engaging ways that reflect the times and perhaps the marketplace.

The clash is inevitable and irreconcilable. Who to rule the Shakespearean kingdom?

Season after season, it is not

only careers that are in opposition but entire world views.

## New Conductor in Paris Takes on Many Roles

By David Stevens

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The business of marrying a symphony orchestra with the right music director has never been an easy one, and it is getting harder all the time as the ranks of first-class orchestras grow and the supply of presumably worthy conductors shrinks — or at least does not grow fast enough.

The age of the conductor-dictator is surely a thing of the past. No more Toscanini and the NBC. No more Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic. The times now seem to favor the conductor as colleague, a kind of first among equals, although heaven knows a symphony orchestra is no democracy.

Enter Christoph Eschenbach, who has just been named music director of the Orchestre de Paris for an initial three-year term beginning in 2000. Depending on how one looks at it, the orchestra dates from 1828, as the successor of the former Concerts du Conservatoire, or from 1967, when it was reformed, with automatic prestige, by the French Cultural Ministry.

The musical founder of the Orchestre de Paris was Charles Munch, the revered conductor who came out of retirement to take on the job, then died a year later during the orchestra's first tour to the United States. He was succeeded first by Herbert von Karajan, then by Sir Georg Solti, but for both men Paris was a second job. Karajan would not give up the Berlin Philharmonic to devote himself to the Paris orchestra, and similarly, Solti made it absolutely clear that the Chicago Symphony was his first love.

Then came 14 years under Daniel Barenboim, a period of mutual reinforcement during which Barenboim built his career as a conductor and the orchestra grew with him. This was followed by a decade under Semyon Bychkov, a solid musician who never acquired the stature the orchestra seemed to need and who irritated a number of the Paris critics. For the last couple of seasons the orchestra has been semi-orphaned, with Christoph von Dohnanyi, the Cleveland Orchestra's director, acting as musical adviser.

By coincidence or design, the announcement of Eschenbach's appointment came as he began a series of concerts with the orchestra, unusual in their mixture of his roles as conductor and performer.

In one concert, he turned pages for the pianist Tzimon Barto in two Brahms chamber



Christoph Eschenbach will be music director of the Orchestre de Paris next year.

works, then played the piano for a performance of Schoenberg's Phantasy for violin and piano, with Philippe Aliche, one of the orchestra's concertmasters, as his partner. In another, he accompanied the Israeli violinist Gil Shaham in two Brahms sonatas and conducted an ensemble of the orchestra's musicians in a chamber version of Schoenberg's Five Orchestra Pieces.

Then, with the full orchestra sounding in its best form, he conducted the Brahms Violin Concerto, with Shaham as soloist, and Schoenberg's symphonic poem "Pelleas et Melisande."

"Chamber music is very important for orchestra people," Eschenbach said. "Music for an orchestra is not confined to the usual repertoire. It includes all kinds of music and all kinds of formations, from a 120-piece orchestra to smaller ensembles of 12 or even four."

Eschenbach was born in 1940 in Breslau (now Wroclaw in Poland) and endured a traumatic childhood that included the deaths of both parents (his mother in child-

birth, his father at the front). He was rescued from a refugee camp by his godmother, a maternal relative, and most important, a pianist and singer who introduced the child to music.

After musical studies in Hamburg, Eschenbach first came into the public eye with victories on the piano competition circuit, notably a first prize in the Clara Haskil Competition in Lucerne, which opened the way to a career as a pianist. But his eye was on a different target.

"I had always wanted to be a conductor," he recalled. "The usual way is to become third kapellmeister in some opera house and work your way up. Instead, I decided to play the piano and watch the conductors. For seven or eight years I played with both the good and the bad, and learned from both."

He regards Karajan and George Szell, the conductor who raised the Cleveland Orchestra to the top rank, as his two main mentors, "and I followed them whenever I could."

When the time came to get up in front of an orchestra and see what happened, "I proved

that the basic things worked — the body language, the projection."

Today he cuts an austere but decisive figure on the podium, with a kind of Mao jacket in place of the traditional white tie and tails, communicating with the orchestra in clear gestures devoid of superfluous signaling.

In 1978, Eschenbach took over his first orchestra in Ludwigshafen, "where I could build up the orchestra and hire new people," as well as build up a substantial repertory. In 1982, he moved to the Tonhalle Orchestra of Zurich, and from there he jumped the Atlantic in 1988 to become music director of the Houston Symphony, a post he is giving up this year.

"Houston was a very fruitful experience," he said of his 10 years in the Texas metropolis. He reckons that the orchestra, already a good one, is now a world-class ensemble. And he got to conduct an opera a year during the Houston Opera's seasons, with his own orchestra in the pit.

The end of the Texas experience means a kind of recentering in Europe for Eschenbach.

He is already in his first season as music director of the North German Radio Orchestra, with which he recently appeared in Paris in a concert, with Gidon Kremer as the soloist, that blew the dust off Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. Besides his commitment to the Orchestre de Paris (a minimum of 12 weeks, 28 concerts), he is also artistic director of the Schleswig-Holstein Festival and since 1995 has been director of the Ravinia Festival, the Chicago Symphony's summer home.

But the "return" to Europe is "not a homecoming," he insists. "I don't like déjà vu."

Eschenbach arrives in Paris in time to play a major role in two events. One is the "Berlioz 2003" project, a multidisciplinary affair with the Orchestre de Paris as the principal musical organization involved, that aims to properly mark Hector Berlioz's 200th birthday.

The other is the almost certain creation of a new home for the orchestra, which has bounced from one hall to another over the years. The Paris music establishment almost unanimously wants a new concert hall, as originally planned, at the Cité de la Musique. The mayor of Paris, Jean Tiberi, wants the disused Gaîté-Lyrique theater restored as the orchestra's home. A decision remains to be made.

## PEOPLE

THE tenor Luciano Pavarotti has lost a court battle and must pay 4.6 billion lire (\$2.5 million) in back taxes, Italian news reports said Tuesday. Pavarotti had argued that his official residence is in the tax haven of Monte Carlo. But an appeals court in Rome ruled that Pavarotti spends most of his time in his hometown of Modena, Italy, and must therefore pay the taxes required of a resident. The tenor is one of dozens of Italian celebrities and sports figures under investigation for tax evasion.

The actress Tea Leoni, wife of the actor David Duchovny, has given birth to the couple's first child. The baby, a girl, has not yet been named. Leoni, the star of "The Naked Truth," and Duchovny, of "The X-Files," were married in May 1997.

The millionaire lottery winner Yvonne Wright will quit her job sweeping up popcorn and selling ice cream at a movie theater, so she can live

like a film star. Wright, 21, plans a new lifestyle of fast cars, parties and exotic holidays after winning £1.5 million (\$2.4 million) in Britain's national lottery, newspapers reported. "I'm going to spend, spend, spend.... Now I can live the life of a film star," she was quoted as saying by the Mirror tabloid.

Sinead O'Connor, who once ripped up a picture of the Pope on television, was ordained in Dublin as the first woman priest in the Latin Tridentine

Church, a Roman Catholic splinter group, by Bishop Michael Cox, who pioneered a phone-in confession service in Ireland. The singer said she had already celebrated Mass four times but would study with Cox for six weeks before starting her priestly career as Mother Bernadette Mary, a name she also plans to use in her music career. O'Connor said her views have changed since her 1992 appearance on NBC's "Saturday Night Live," when she tore up a picture of Pope John Paul II. "I do apologize for that. I am sorry I did that. It was a disrespectful thing to do," she said.

Donald Sutherland has a bad case of stage fright. "I've made 101 films and I throw up at the beginning of every one," Sutherland said. And now he's rehearsing for a stage appearance in Los Angeles in "Enigma Variations," a psychological thriller. "I haven't been on the stage for 20 years and I'm terrified, but it's not an uninteresting terror," said Sutherland.



STRUCTURING RELATIONSHIPS — Wolfgang Thierse, right, the speaker of the German Parliament, presenting the Order of the Federal Republic of Germany to the British architect Norman Foster, who designed the plans for the rebuilding of the Reichstag in Berlin.



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